



SAMFORD

Samford University

Entre Nous

2017-2018



Welcome

We can all agree that Samford University is a place that changes lives. As students we laugh, cry, work hard and earn degrees. At the end of the day, we are all grateful for the lessons learned within the four years of college.

I speak for the entire Entre Nous staff when I say that I hope within these pages you can find something that has impacted your college career. Whether it's winning sweepstakes, joining a greek organization or cheering on the Football team against UGA. College consists of many memories that at the time we might not know the impact they made, but years from now as we reminisce on the good and the bad, we know and understand it's our experiences that make us who we are.

There's a quote that we hear as we start our freshman year and as we exit with our cap and gowns. It's something that we are reminded of through our classes, the curriculum taught at Samford, the leadership provided by SGA and the overall community that Samford University gives us. "For God, for Learning and Forever" is a saying that we can all hold in our hearts as we live out the best four years of college.

As we leave Birmingham, we have an education and a reputation to uphold. Samford has taught us many things and given us many memories, however it is our job to act with grace and wisdom as we become Alumnae. Therefore, don't hold back during these amazing years. Anticipate the extraordinary and reflect on your time spent here. You will be challenged, with early mornings and many all-nighters. You will inspire others, with community service and leadership. You will grow, mentally and spiritually through this community and opportunities abroad.

As you turn the pages of this book I hope that you see things that you are involved in and realize the impact that Samford has given your life. Samford is a place that we call home.

Know that you are always welcome here.

Thank you,
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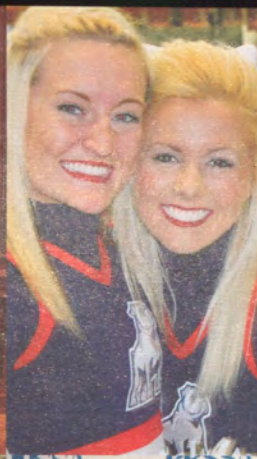


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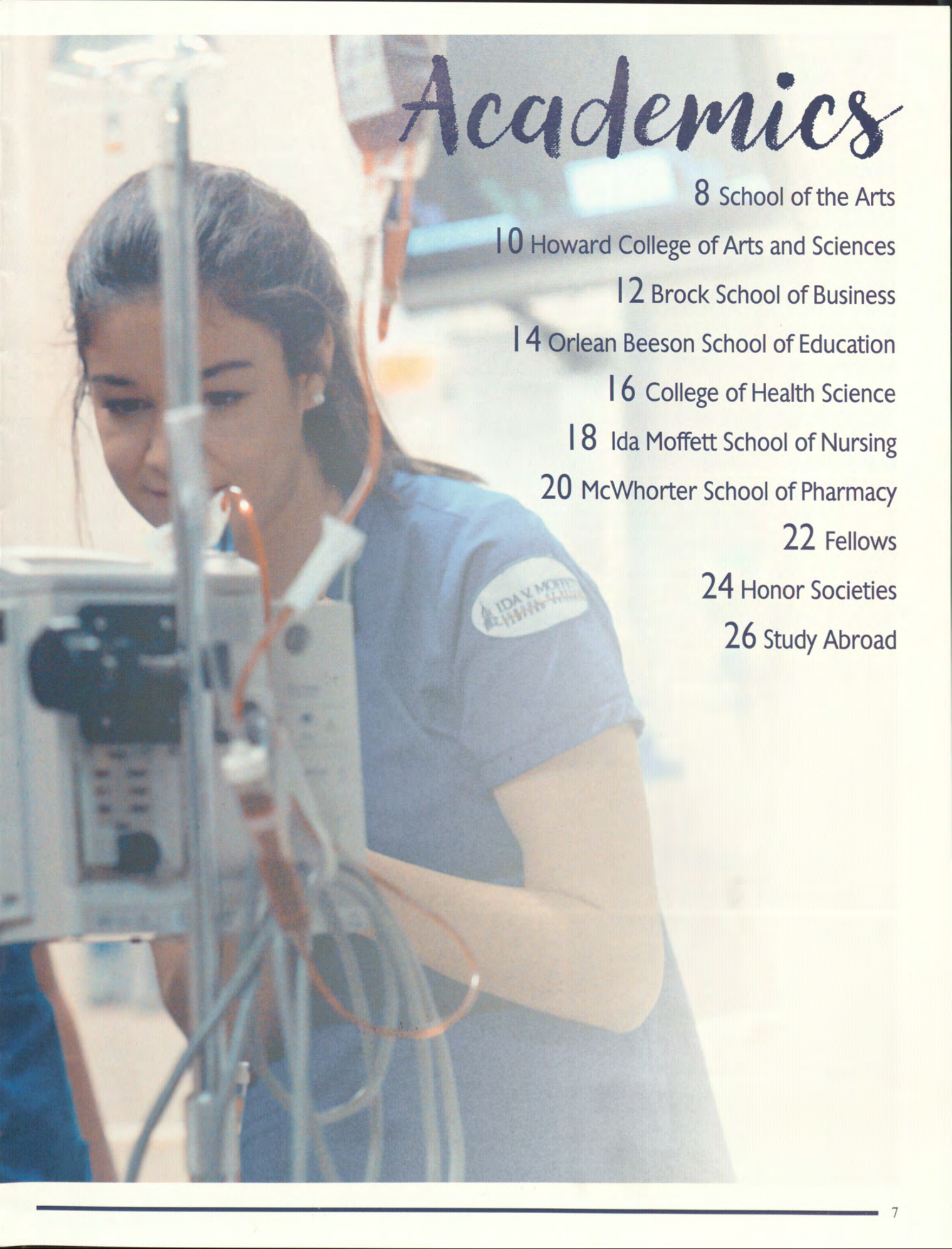
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A young woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a blue lab coat, is focused on a piece of medical equipment. She is holding a small, glowing orange tube or probe. The background is a clinical setting with various medical devices and equipment.

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School of the Arts

Written by Madison Webster

Photos by Stanley Zeng

Samford University's School of the Arts is home to a number of art, design, music, theater and dance programs. Many passionate and dedicated students find their home on Samford's campus in these rigorous programs. In addition to their rigorous classwork, students in the School of the Arts have opportunities to participate in projects that resemble real-life tasks they may encounter.

Since the School of the Arts offers various programs of study, students sometimes have the opportunity to collaborate with those outside their majors.

"This spring semester, three other students and I have formed a string quartet," said junior music major Chloe Smith. "One interesting project that we've been offered is a collaboration with the architecture students on campus! For this project, the architecture students will consult with our group and discuss the elements of the piece we want to perform. From our descriptions, they will design an outdoor structure that mimics the qualities of our piece. Once the project is complete, it will be part of an exhibition on campus. My string quartet will sit inside or next to the structure and play our piece!"

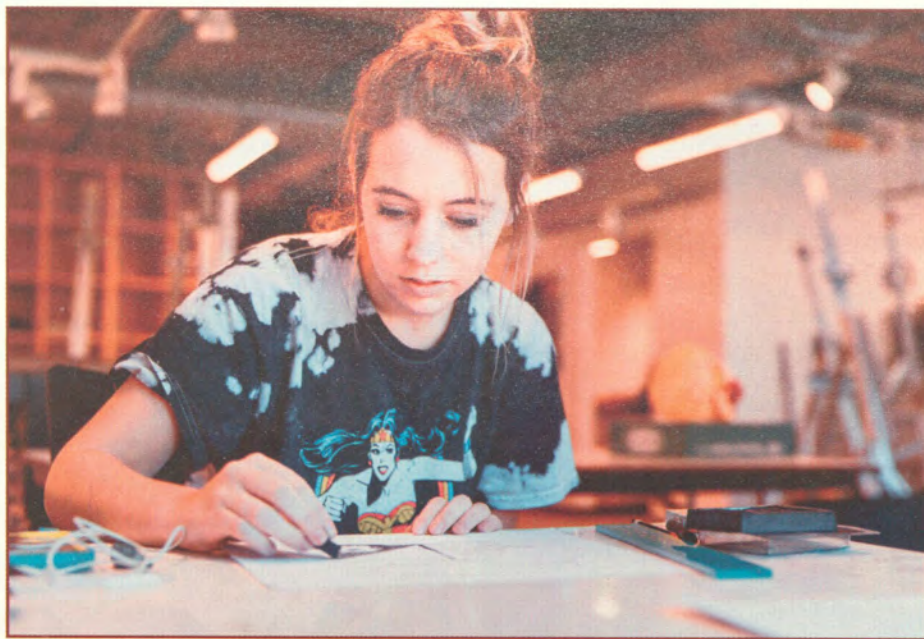
During the fall semester, several interior design students applied what they learned in the classroom to Samford's campus. Interior design students were involved in the redesigning of the food court. As Samford students, these individuals brought a unique perspective to the project, since they were personally aware of how the space has been used and how the student body would like to see it redesigned.

The students in the School of the Arts often offer events such as

plays, dance concerts and musical performances that the entire student body and Birmingham community can enjoy. Some major plays performed by Samford students this year include "Caucasian Chalk Circle" and "How I Became a Pirate" in addition to several others.

The School of the Arts is filled with creative, talented and passionate students. "What I love most about interior design is how it impacts our society in ways most people don't think about," said junior interior design major Emily Baxter, "from color psychology to sustainability to culture." This perspective drives students of the School of the Arts to develop their skills in ways that allow them to impact their communities.





Howard College of Arts and Sciences

Written by Emily Clark

Founded in 1841, Howard College of Arts and Sciences is named after English social reformer, John Howard. Howard College boasts 16 departments and over 30 majors. Howard College's impressive catalog of majors draws in a large and diverse group of students.

In addition to hosting most of Samford's undergraduate students, Howard College also impacts students from other disciplines through the college's general education courses. These required general education courses serve as the base of students' liberal arts education. Through the varied collection of majors and general education classes, Howard College prepares students by fostering a wide range of skills useful for their future careers.

Hallie Bowles, senior law, politics and society major, is thankful for her experience during her time in Howard College as she prepares to attend law school.

"As a law, politics, and society major, I had the opportunity to take courses across disciplines," said Bowles. "Even though my favorite classes were Dr. Bradley's Sociology of Entrepreneurship and Ms. Tubbs' Criminology course, all of my arts and science classes, in the end, contributed to my being a well-rounded student. Without a doubt, I'm prepared for law school."

Arts and sciences degrees allow students to create their own career path. Students are taught to think critically and adapt easily to various situations.

These skills make them valuable employees in any profession. Each department and major teaches these skills to accomplish their shared mission of helping students fulfill their dreams.

"I have wanted to be a veterinarian since I was 3 years old," said junior biology major, Mattie Stark. "I believe the Howard College of Arts and Sciences has done a brilliant job at preparing me to conquer my dream."

Howard College not only helps students as they strive toward their career goals, but it also serves as a place for students to grow by providing them with various opportunities.

"Once I became a Spanish major, I really had a chance to see how incredible the professors in this department are," said sophomore Spanish major, Sierra Outerbridge. "They love the language and desire for us to understand more than the grammar but the cultures and people who speak Spanish as well. It has been great getting to know the professors. I have had great opportunities through the Spanish department, and I cannot wait to study in Spain this summer!"

Howard College provides a versatile liberal arts degree with innovative classroom experiences, study abroad trips, research opportunities, and scholars programs. Through all of these opportunities, Howard College equips students to achieve success professionally, personally, and spiritually.



Photo courtesy by Olivia Halverson



Photo by Sarah Tuttle

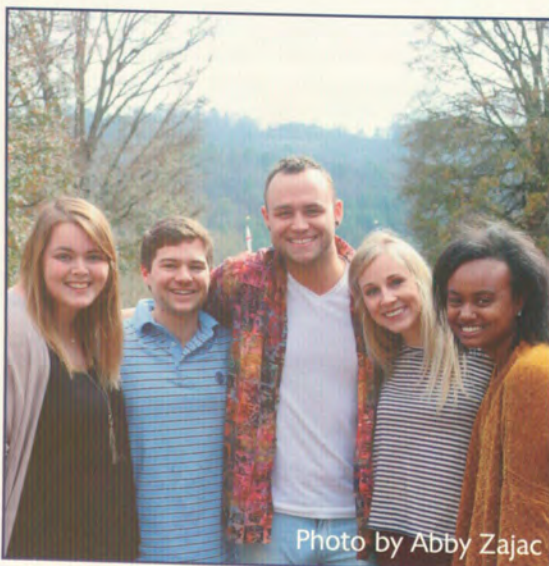
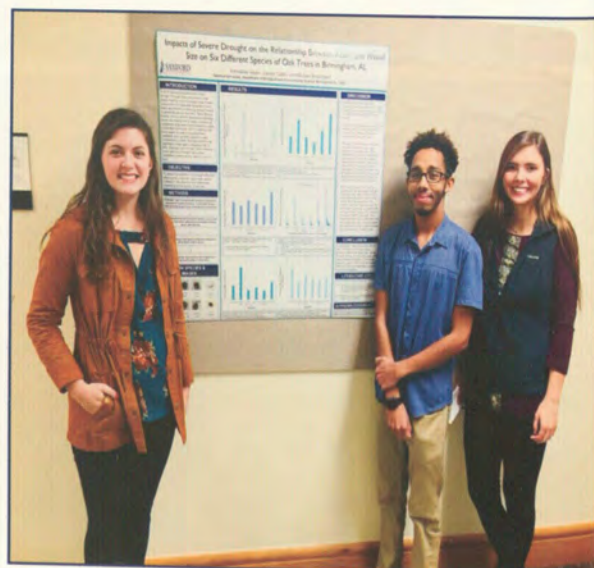


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Sciences



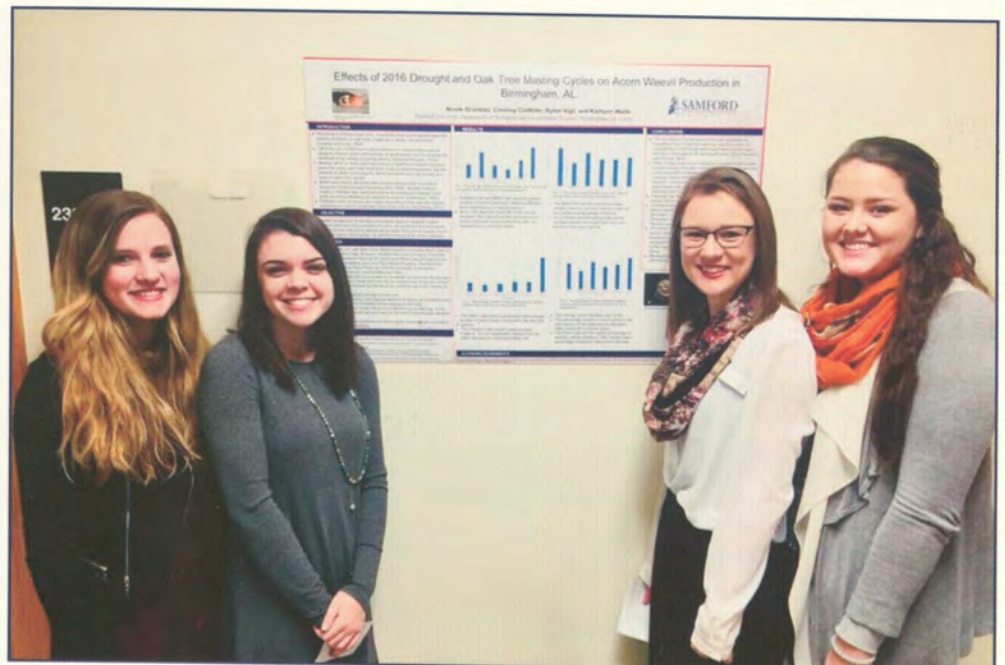
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Brock School of Business

Written by Ashlee Fincher

Established in 1965, the Brock School of Business offers students the opportunity to learn in an institution internationally accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). The Brock School of Business has almost 800 students enrolled and professionally experienced teachers who are passionate about enriching the education of their students.

"The Brock School of Business has provided me with real-life skills that empower me to be a much stronger businesswoman who will be better equipped once I finish college," said junior management major Hillary Block. "Although the curriculum may be challenging, the environment this school fosters allow us to grow and pushes us to be better."

Upon admittance into the Brock School of Business, students go through the Rite of Passage Ceremony that formally brings them into the school, recognizes their achievements and communicates expectations of the students as they prepare for their professional careers.

Throughout the past school year, the Brock School of Business hosted various events intended to help their students make connections in the professional community throughout Birmingham.

Samford hosted three Meet the Firms events in the fall, providing students the opportunity to network with potential employers. Each Meet the Firms event catered to different majors, with one for accounting majors, another for economic and finance majors and a final one for marketing and management majors.

"Having the opportunity to go meet and network with companies that I could potentially work for is a valuable experience that I appreciate," said sophomore management major Madison Averill. "The ability to showcase who I am as an individual before having to go through an interview is something that most college students don't have the opportunity to do. In this way, I feel that Samford is truly preparing us to be successful and stand out to future employers."

The Brock School of Business also offers MBA promanagement major Madigrams with an average completion in two years. Currently, there are 7,820 Brock School of Business alumni serving in a professional capacity around the world.



Photo by Jade Baker



Photo by Sydney

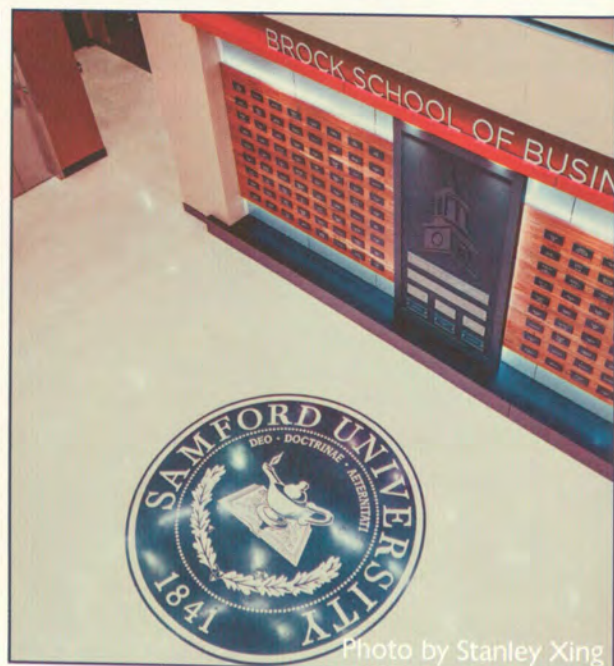
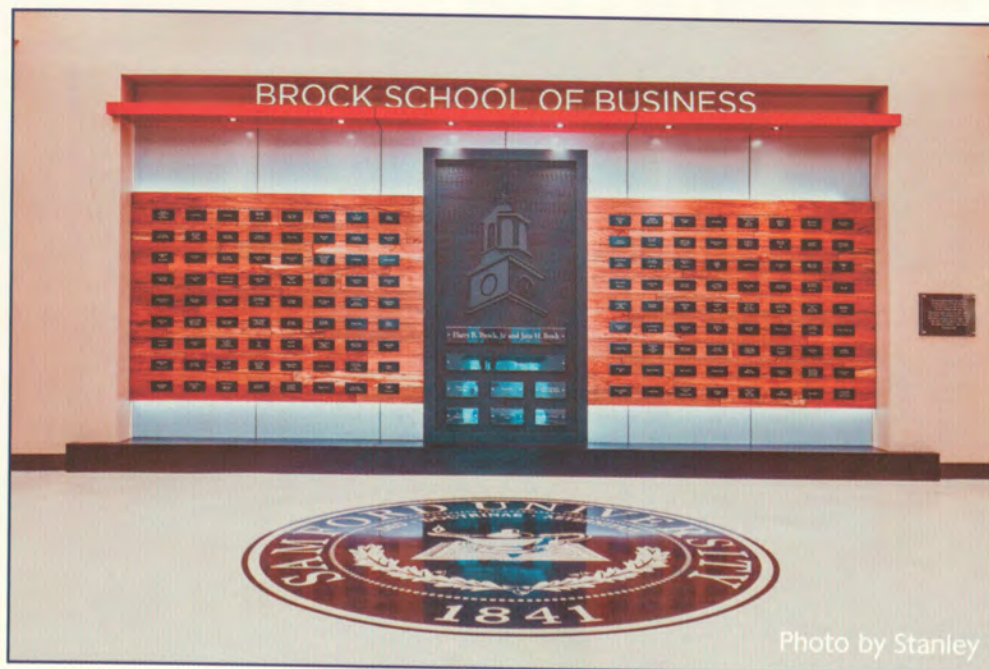
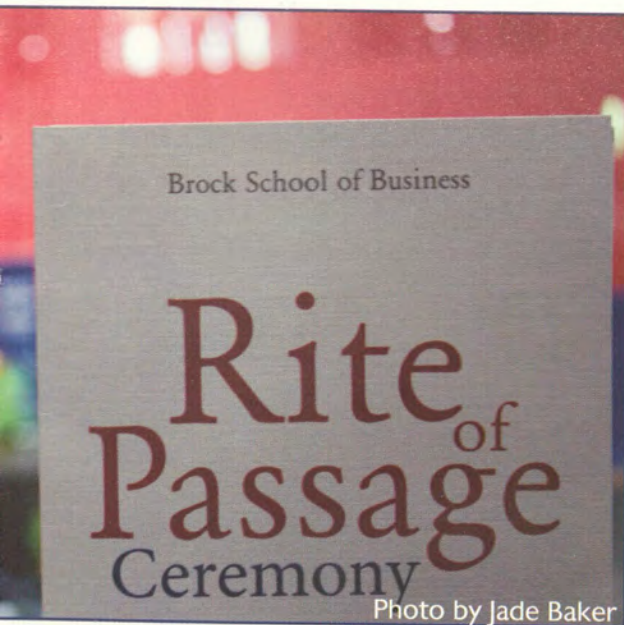


Photo by Stanley Xing



Orlean Beeson School of Education

Written by Madison Webster

Established in 1915, the Orlean Beeson School of Education boasted around 700 enrolled students and 7,500 alumni, but those numbers will likely increase with the addition of a new program. At the beginning of 2018, the Orlean Beeson School of Education launched a new program that provides individuals with non-education bachelors' degrees the opportunity to earn a teaching certification and master's degree in just 18 months. This new program, the Master of Science in Education in K-12 Collaborative Special Education, has a specific focus on special education.

This program "is designed for those who desire to gain knowledge and understanding in order to effectively teach, plan and impact the learning of students with disabilities and at-risk for disabilities in the K-12 classroom," as stated on the program's website.

As witnessed with the addition of the new master's program, the Orlean Beeson School of Education has a history of providing innovative new programs. The College introduced the Tom and Marla Corts Distinguished Author Series in 2011. This year, the series welcomed author and Samford alumnus Eric Motley on March 1, 2018. Motley spoke about his nationally recognized memoir "Madison Park: A Place of Hope."

"Eric Motley's speech on the importance of community, along with stories of impactful moments from his life was a great reminder to love and support those around me," said freshman education major Katherine Keith.

In addition to launching a new program and inviting a distinguished guest to campus during

the spring semester, the Orlean Beeson School of Education continued to provide undergraduate education students with courses and clinical hours that prepare them for their careers throughout the school year.

"When I first started the education program here, I was unsure how much clinical time I was going to have as a freshman and sophomore," said sophomore education major Anna Montanari. "This semester I am spending 22 hours in a classroom at a local elementary school, which has been a fantastic experience so far. Spending time in a classroom and getting to know a teacher is helping grow my love for teaching."

The Orlean Beeson School of Education had another successful year by developing educators who are knowledgeable, experienced and passionate about their field through classroom, clinical and professional opportunities.

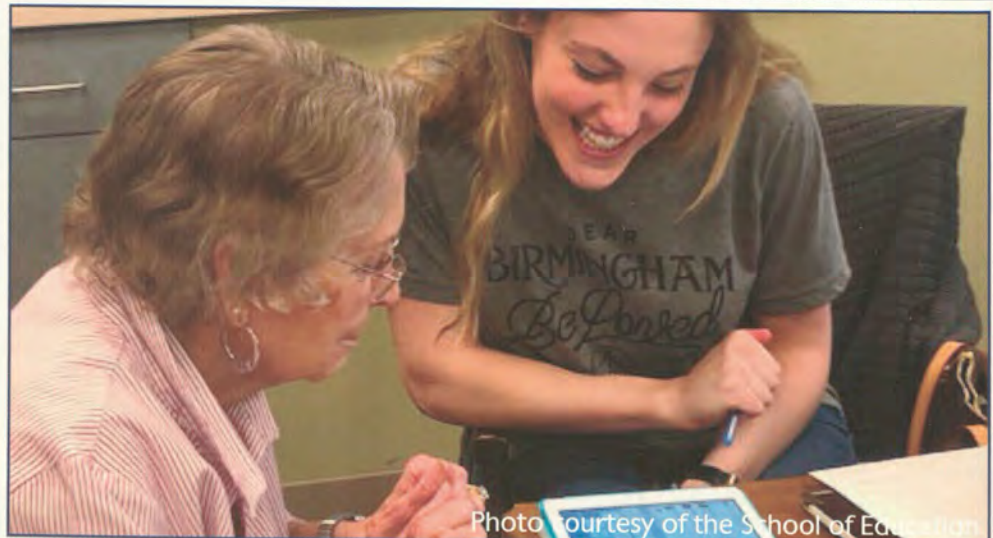


Photo courtesy of the School of Education



Photo by Anna Montanari



Photo by Rachel Loughney



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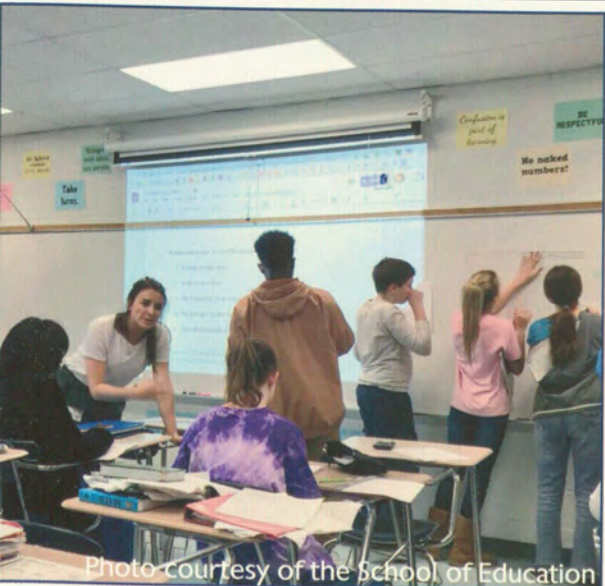


Photo courtesy of the School of Education



Photo courtesy of the School of Education

College of Health Sciences

Written by Shelby Luna

A multitude of students spend their academic careers in Samford's College of Health Sciences. The College of Health Sciences houses four schools: the Ida Moffett School of Nursing, School of Health Professions, School of Public Health, and the McWhorter School of Pharmacy. Combined, these schools offer a variety of majors such as kinesiology, physical therapy, health administration and several more.

These four schools are housed together in the newly purchased College of Health Sciences Building. Their location near each other allows them to work together as a cohesive college. Each semester, the four schools work together in a disaster simulation in which students pretend there is a crisis and respond to it based on their knowledge learned in their respective schools.

"The College of Health Sciences has prepared me for my future by offering me unique opportunities to participate in inter-professional experiences, such as the annual disaster simulation, which brings together students from different professions to give them realistic experiences working with simulated patients," said

senior audiology major Kelsey Brittingham.

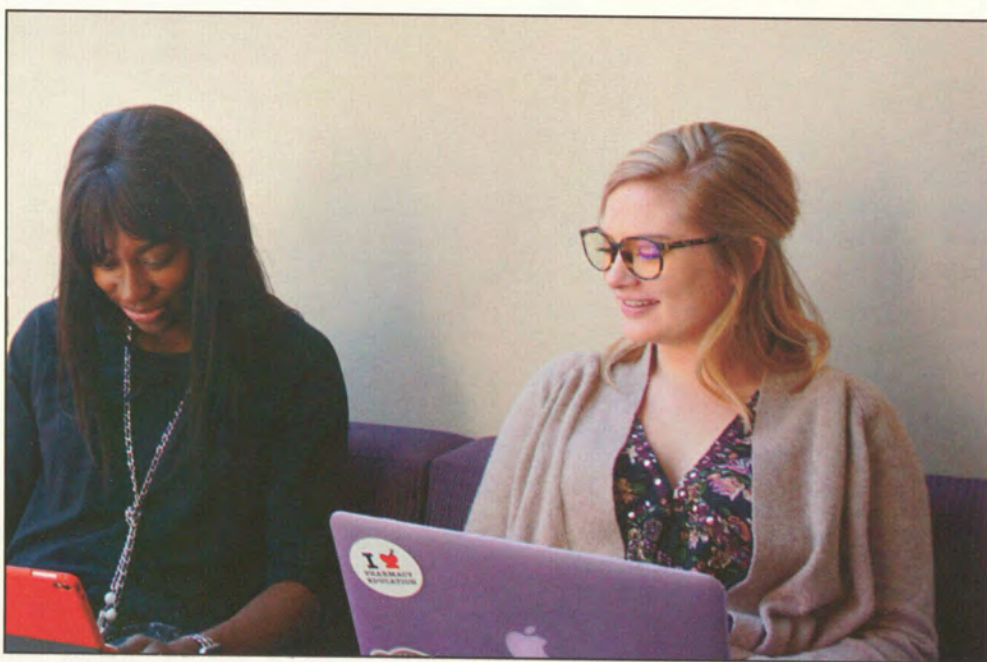
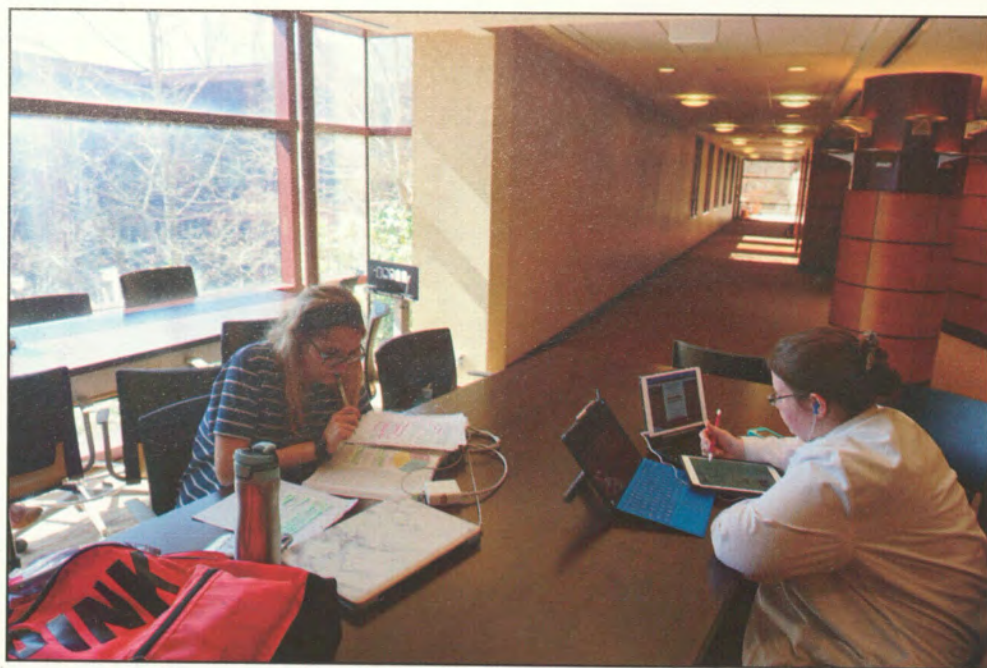
The faculty and staff of the College of Health Sciences strive to prepare students for whatever health profession or science they choose to pursue. They work to provide students an education and help them connect that education with their passions. The faculty shows concern for and prioritizes getting to know each student.

"The faculty and staff emphasizes the need to do what you are passionate about," said sophomore Emily Boucher. "They are very good at working with students and helping them connect their spiritual vocations with practical jobs."

The College of Health Sciences provides students with an excellent foundation for their future careers. Those involved in the College recognize it as a blessing.

"I came all this way for the schooling and the spiritual gain you acquire while attending Samford because it's one of the best around," said Floridian and freshman physical therapy major Grace Hardiman.





Ida Moffett School of Nursing

Written by Ashlee Fincher

Pictures by Stanley Zeng

Established in 1922, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing boasts an enrollment of over 800 students. Each year, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing accepts students into their very competitive program and places them into a cohort. The cohort provides students with peer support while they take classes and engage in hands-on training as the nursing students prepare to take the National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX exam, to become a licensed nurse.

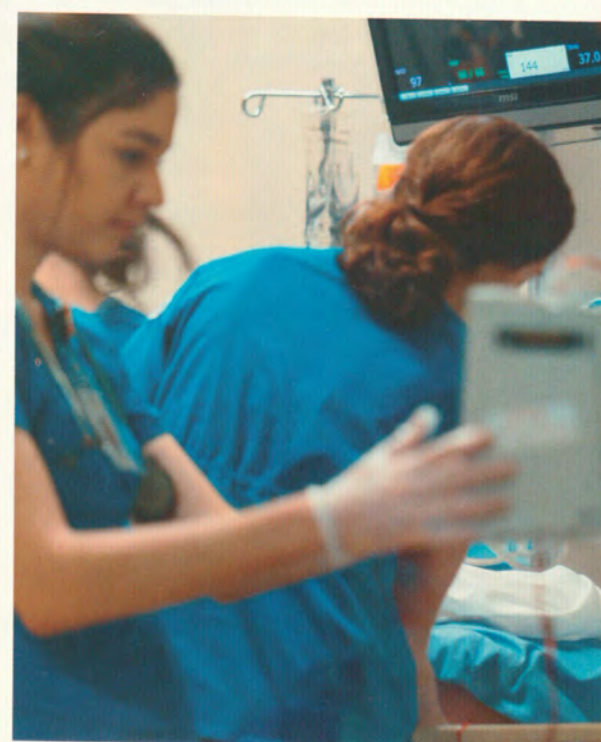
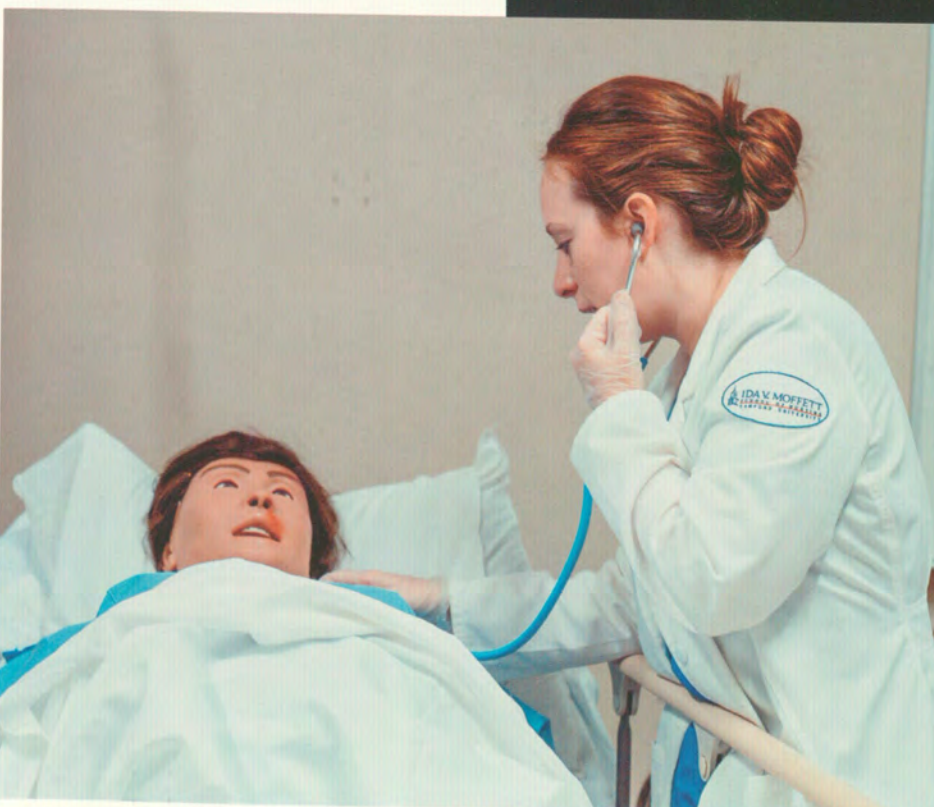
The newest cohort in the school consists of 79 students who are expected to graduate in May of 2020. This spring, they received their scrubs, began their nursing classes and began taking validations to test their skills.

The nursing school provides the Experiential Learning and Simulation Center that allows nursing students to work with models, task trainers and human patient simulators to aid each student with their technical skills, clinical judgment, decision making, communication and teamwork. Sophomore nursing major Sarah Swain feels like she can “actually succeed in nursing school because of the facility.”

One of the greatest moments in a nursing student's academic career is the White Coat Ceremony for students starting their clinical rotations. This ceremony marks an important milestone for nursing students as the event commemorates the first step of taking the lessons they have learned in class and applying them in live medical settings.

“I think that the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing at Samford truly prepares you to incorporate holistic care with your patients. Not only by helping us understand how to accurately assess and diagnose patients but informing us about sensitivity with patients based on cultural and religious practices,” said sophomore nursing major Kathleen Bradley.





McWhorter School of Pharmacy

Written by Madison Webster

Photos by Stanley Zeng

The McWhorter School of Pharmacy celebrated its 90th anniversary this year with the dedication of the Pharmacy History Wall on Feb. 15, 2018, located in the College of Health Sciences.

Many prospective pharmacy students choose Samford for the opportunity to enter the McWhorter School of Pharmacy in their third year of undergraduate study. Students who apply and are accepted to the program commit themselves to rigorous study and impressive professional development. Since McWhorter students begin graduate studies well before their peers at Samford, pharmacy students form close relationships as a result of their time together.

"There's a reason why we call ourselves a 'pharmily' — every student and every professor at McWhorter School of Pharmacy cares about our fellow students," said junior and 2021 Doctorate of Pharmacy candidate Lacey Hughes. "We go through the same experiences, same highs and same lows together, and that is what makes us a tight-knit community. We want the best for our 'pharmily,' that is, that we all graduate as the best future healthcare practitioners we can be."

McWhorter students also engage with pharmaceutical issues

beyond their classroom studies and clinical experiences. On Feb. 7, 2018, McWhorter students traveled to Montgomery to participate in the Alabama Pharmacy Association (APA) Student Legislative Lunch. At this event, McWhorter students had the opportunity to speak with Alabama legislators about their profession. This opportunity allowed students to advocate for their field of study and network with professionals they may work with in the future.

"Pharmacy school is providing me with a perfect blend of education and professional experience," said senior and 2020 Doctorate of Pharmacy candidate Hope Mary. "I find comfort in knowing that McWhorter School of Pharmacy is preparing me for the career I'll have the rest of my life!"





Micah Fellows

Written by Becca Weatherford

The 2-year-old Micah Fellows Program continues to rapidly grow as students in the program strive to fulfill Micah 6:8 through acting justly, loving mercy and humbly walking with God. The program expects the Micah Fellows to serve the community during the entirety of their undergraduate experience.

"When the founders of this program got together, we realized that we were incredibly poised to do something that could be done in no other city and at no other college than ours. That as a Christian university, and as a Christian university in the city of Birmingham, we have the ability to engage both the hearts and the minds of college students in order to truly enact faith," said Caroline Janeway, Associate Director of the Micah Fellows Program.

With its first class graduating in 2020, the Micah Fellows has yet to finish a full cycle of graduates, but the program has already established a strong educational foundation. The Micah Fellows classes of 2020 and 2021 extensively study the ancient, Christian and modern ideals of justice, mercy and humility to implement into their daily lives.

In addition, the Micah Fellows Program continuously serves alongside partners such as The Birmingham Education Foundation, Kanzi Crafts, Ornaments for Orphans and the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama. Through their service, the Micah Fellows embody the spirit of Christianity on and off campus.

"I have been able to intern at the Birmingham Education Foundation and work on various projects within the non-profit organization," said sophomore Micah Fellow and Spanish major Sierra Outerbridge. "From helping with Network Nights to inputting data, I have been able to learn more about the education system while doing hands-on work. In the future, I hope to pursue opportunities with education reform and teaching. Working with Ed has given me insight that will continue to prepare me for a future career!"



Fellows in Italy

Written by Ashlee Fincher

Sophomores in the University Fellow program enjoyed a trip to Rome and Florence, Italy over Jan Term. The main focus of the annual trip was to allow students in their second year of the Fellow program to see and experience the locations, culture, and art they studied in their first three semesters of Western Intellectual Tradition. During the trip, they went to see churches, museums, catacombs, ancient ruins and more.

The Fellows were given the opportunity to take a private tour of Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. During their visit to the Basilica, Fellows went underneath the church, walked around the original streets, and saw the original walls of art. Their tour concluded with a viewing of what are believed to be the bones of Saint Peter himself.

"Getting to spend time in the catacombs and see the supposed bones of Saint Peter will forever be engrained in my memory," said sophomore pre-business major, Elena Benn. "It was really cool to see a place that I've not only studied about in my classes here at Samford but also talk about at my church."

Fellows also had time to travel independently after their daily classes and during their travel break. Students traveled to a variety of locations including Venice, France, Milan, the Amalfi Coast, and Pompeii.

Additionally, the Fellows were required to create a report on a performance or location they saw while in Italy. For this assignment, some students decided to go to a local opera performance, the Capuchin Crypts, or see vespers at local churches. Despite the chosen topic, the assignment ensured Fellows on the trip continued their education

through immersing themselves in Italian culture.

"Beyond new experiences, lasting memories, and stronger friendships that will last a lifetime, this trip gave me the opportunity to live history – to take my education and bring it to life," said a sophomore Fellow, Jordan Williams.



Honor Societies

Written by Mary Clark Herrod

Samford is home to several honor societies that acknowledge the hard work of many well-deserving students from various disciplines and majors. Honor societies provide students with many opportunities and allow them to expand their educational experience. They can be major, program specific or invite members from across campus. From a business honor society (Beta Psi Alpha) to a biology honor society (Beta Beta Beta), and from an honor society for English majors (Sigma Tau Delta) to one just for freshmen (Alpha Lambda Delta), students in every part of campus have the opportunity to be recognized for academic achievements.

Honor societies usually have requirements and certain GPA standards for membership set by either the national organization or the campus chapter. Honor societies allow students to be celebrated for academic achievements and give members a sense of accomplishment.

"I am thankful that Samford provided me the opportunity to join national honor societies on campus," said junior communications major Emily Clark. "I value my membership in these organization and know that they will be an asset to me in the future."

Most of the honor societies on campus are national organizations with chapters at universities across the country. Since many of the organizations extend beyond Samford, they connect students with peers and alumni from various parts of the country. In addition, honor societies that are not major specific provide members with opportunities to meet students from different parts of campus.

"Being in academic honor societies gives me the opportunity to get recognition for the hard work that I put in each semester," said junior English and journalism and mass communication double major Anne Davis Parks. "I enjoy meeting other people from other departments

who also work hard, and it is fun to celebrate that with old friends and new."

At Samford, honor societies bring new students together each year for celebration and recognition.

Notable Honor Societies at Samford include but are not limited to: Alpha Epsilon Delta, Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Psi Omega, Beta Alpha Psi, Beta Beta Beta, Beta Gamma Sigma, Dobro Slovo, Gamma Sigma Alpha, Kappa Delta Pi, Kappa Tau Alpha, Mu Kappa Tau, Omicron Delta Kappa, Omicron Delta Epsilon, Order of Omega, Phi Alpha Theta, Phi Kappa Phi, Rho Chi/Phi Lambda Sigma, Phi Sigma Tau, Sigma Delta Pi, Sigma Tau Delta, and Theta Alpha Kappa.



Photo submitted by Sigma Tau Delta



Photo submitted by Rho Chi Society



Photo submitted by Order of Omega



Photo submitted by Omicron Delta Kappa

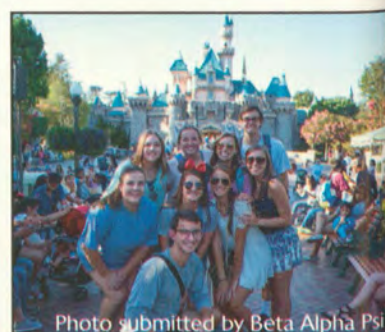


Photo submitted by Beta Alpha Psi



Photo submitted by Omicron Delta Kappa





Photo submitted by Sigma Tau Delta



Photo submitted by Sigma Delta Pi



Photo submitted by Beta Alpha Psi



Photo submitted by Gamma Sigma Alpha



Photo submitted by Rho Chi Society



Photo submitted by Beta Alpha Psi



Photo submitted by Phi Alpha Theta



Photo submitted by Omicron Delta Kappa



Photo submitted by Beta Alpha Psi



Photo submitted by Beta Alpha Psi

Study Abroad Jan Term

Written by Emily Clark

Jan Term is a beloved part of Samford tradition. Many students spend Jan Term all over the world studying a wide range of subjects taught by Samford professors. This year, students and faculty traveled to various locations including Costa Rica, London, Israel, Greece, Indonesia and Rwanda. While abroad, students immerse themselves in other cultures and enjoy a short-term, but in-depth, learning experience.

Many Jan Term classes fulfill general education or elective credits that apply to multiple majors and minors. Therefore, while studying abroad, students meet people from a variety of different years and majors. In addition to forming new connections, students explore new cultures and events throughout their host city and during their travel weekends.

"I absolutely loved my time abroad in London. I got to visit both Oxford and Cambridge University as well as travel to Edinburgh, Scotland, for a long weekend," said senior communication studies major Maddy Kross. "I'm so thankful for the various people I got to meet along the journey. It was so eye-opening to meet people from all over the world with different backgrounds and that spoke different languages."

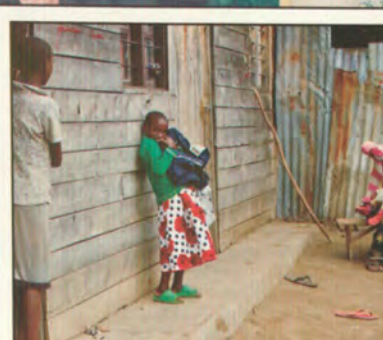
Although some classes fulfill general education requirements, other Jan Term classes focus on specific programs like theater, education, journalism and

business. In these situations, studying abroad specifically correlates and is tailored to students' interests and majors.

"This Jan Term I had the opportunity to study abroad in Rwanda. I was able to learn a lot about different development practices and which of these have been successful in Rwanda," said junior economics and finance major Shelby Collins. "I really enjoyed experiencing a new culture. The experience as a whole really changed my perspective on development."

After studying abroad during Jan Term, students return to campus with a renewed sense of purpose and motivation. Some individuals want to live and work abroad one day, while others come back with a desire to continue traveling and exploring new places. No matter what students take away from their trip, they will remember their Jan Term study abroad experiences for the rest of their lives.

"I have always wanted to go on a study abroad trip, and I never would have thought it would impact my life as much as it did," said sophomore education major Anna Montanari. "I had the incredible opportunity to do a cross-culture practicum in Jakarta, Indonesia. I can honestly say Indonesians are the most joyous people you'll ever meet, and I am so glad God opened the doors for me to travel to this amazing country and can't wait to go back."



Costa Rica

Written by Emily Clark



Over Jan Term, 24 students from various majors traveled to study in Costa Rica. They left at the end of December and celebrated the New Year in Costa Rica. The University offered two different courses during this trip. World languages and cultures professor, Dr. Joanna Bradley, a professor of world languages and cultures, taught the Samford in Costa Rica Spanish language course. Dr. Pat Terry, a professor of nutrition and dietetics, taught Food, Culture, and Society.

Throughout their experience abroad, these students engaged in first-hand learning opportunities with language and food. Even when they were not in the classroom, students experienced Costa Rican culture through exploring the local area, traveling around the country and living with host families.

"Aside from the amazing classroom experience, we learned about the culture of Costa Rica through interacting with community members, our professor and our host families," said senior nutrition and dietetics major Callie Nickles. "Honestly, some of my favorite memories of Costa Rica were the times when we engaged in meaningful conversations with our host family. I absolutely fell in love with the people, the food, the country and the culture of Costa Rica! I can't wait to have another opportunity to visit again!"



Even though the two classes had separate classrooms, they enjoyed spending time and experiencing Costa Rica together during their free time. Students visited different parts of the country including the beach, a volcano and a coffee plantation. As students traveled throughout Costa Rica, they practiced their Spanish speaking skills and enjoyed the laid-back lifestyle of the local people.

"My visit to Costa Rica was amazing," said junior psychology major Ellen Radcliff. "I was able to experience new things like exploring the jungle and visiting the Arenal Volcano with my friends. The Costa Rican culture is one that I admire as it is very simplistic and pure."



Israel

Written by Emily Clark

This Jan Term, a total of 26 students joined Dr. Jeff Leonard, a religion professor, for a tour of the Holy Land, Israel. The group visited the Judean Hill Country, the Negev Wilderness, the Jordan Valley, the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, the Mediterranean Sea and Jerusalem.

While visiting these sites, students read scripture passages that corresponded to the locations. Many students said that spending time in Israel and walking in the footsteps of Jesus brought the Bible to life for them.

"Dr. Leonard did an incredible job taking us around and teaching us about sights from Jesus' life," said sophomore graphic design major Sammy Solberg. "My favorite memories include reading 1 Samuel at the location where David killed Goliath, being able to place my hands in the Jordan River, running backpack and all into the Sea of Galilee and getting to know the other students on the trip. Everyone was so positive and ready for a

new adventure each day. Israel was not what I was expecting. There was so much beauty in the different landscapes, and every view took my breath away. Being there and seeing everything in person shows you an idea of what it could have been like to walk with Jesus through Jerusalem or Nazareth."

Some highlights of this trip included praying at the Wailing Wall and spending time at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Experiencing the Holy Land firsthand was awe-inspiring and refreshing for the students.

"Traveling to the Holy Land through Passages Israel was the most invaluable experience Samford has given me," said senior religion major Grace Pike. "As we extensively explored the rich roots of our Christian faith, we also gained fresh perspectives and a deeper compassion for those involved in the current conflicts in the Middle East. From Jerusalem to the Gaza Strip, to the Sea of Galilee and

everywhere in between, each moment of the trip deepened my understanding and enjoyment of the sovereign, Almighty God of the universe and of my own heart."

Studying in Israel not only opened students' eyes to significant Biblical events but also to modern day conflicts happening in the region. After this trip, students had a deeper knowledge of present-day events in Israel and a greater understanding of the Israeli people. Spending time abroad inspired many students to return to Israel one day.

"My study abroad trip to Israel with Passages was the most interesting and spiritually significant trips I've been on," said freshman nursing major Katherine Keith. "I learned so much about the history of modern Israel, Biblical history and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in just 10 days! Now when I read the Bible, I have a whole new understanding of the geography and context of each story."



London

Written by Kate Collom

The decision for a college student to study abroad for a whole semester requires a lot of courage, independence, and curiosity as they immerse themselves in a new culture away from family, friends, and their normal routine. Despite the challenges in studying abroad, a semester spent in a foreign country is often life-changing for students. Samford provides students and faculty with the amazing opportunity to live and study in one of the most culturally rich cities in the world: London.

"London was easily the best semester of my life. The city itself is amazing and has so much to explore," said senior sports medicine major, Kendra Skenderi.

The London Semester Abroad program offers students the opportunity to study abroad either during the fall or spring semester as a

full-time student taking anywhere between 12-18 credit hours. The program lasts for 15 weeks, including a one-week orientation, 12 weeks of classes, and two, one-week travel breaks.

While enrolled in the program, students are housed at The Daniel House, which was purchased by Samford University in 1983 thanks to the Daniel Foundation of Alabama. Living in the same house for a whole semester allows students in the program to foster a great community that transcends their time in London.

"The community at the Daniel House was unreal," said Skenderi. "I see everyone who was studying abroad with me on campus again and they are like family to me. There is not a better way to put it."

A typical school day at The Daniel House consists of waking up to eat breakfast, working on homework until lunch, attending class in the afternoon, and then exploring the city at night for dinner and entertainment such as a musical or jazz show.

Weekends are spent with students culturally immersing themselves through exploring London staples such as Big Ben, the British Museum and Hyde Park.

"I really like the immersive aspect," said junior journalism and mass communication major, Anne Davis Parks. "Talking about something for two hours and then jumping on the Tube to go see an exhibit on it has been really exciting and a cool way to learn."



Greece

Written by Jared Skinner

Jan Term is highly prized for the ease with which it allows students to study abroad for a reasonable amount of time. In 2018, there were a number of trips overseas to countries such as the United Kingdom, Costa Rica and Israel. A highlight among these was the journey to the Mediterranean nation of Greece.

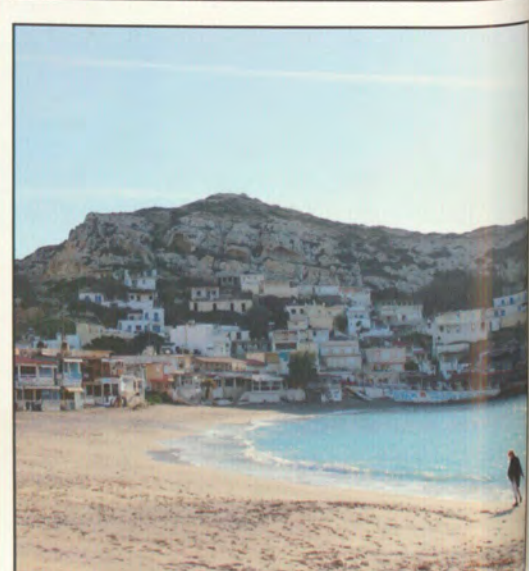
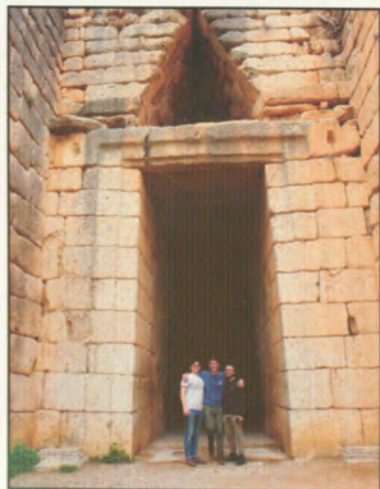
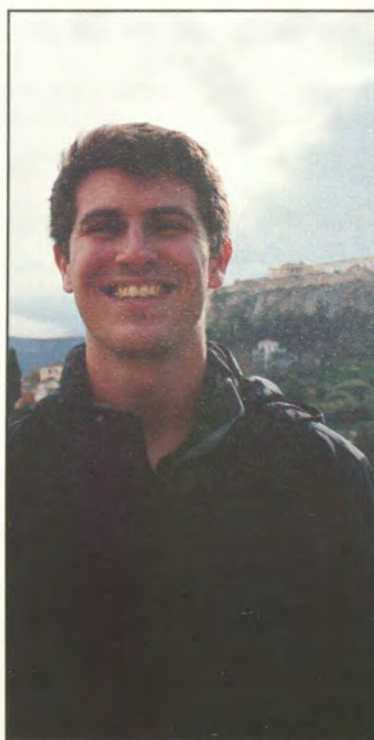
Lead by Classics professors Randy Todd and Andy Montgomery with a record-high attendance of 36 students, the trip was an exciting and inspiring educational tour of Western development. The group was able to visit classical sites dating from as early as the Bronze Age as well as sites pivotal in the New Testament story during their stay. This unparalleled window into history was an incredibly enriching experience.

Students were enamored by the beauty and uniqueness of the beautiful country.

"The best part about the trip was how immersed in Greek culture we were," said junior Lynsey Smith. "I love the time we spent in Athens as well and I think one of the hidden gems were all the towns that we could go spend a day or two in."

With no shortage of gorgeous beach towns to choose from, it is doubtful that any of the students were at a loss with what to do with their free time.

The on-site education provided when studying indubitably leads to a greater understanding of culture and history than any classroom session fully could. This makes trips like the one to Greece an irreplaceable and invaluable experience. From the ascent of the Acropolis and the views of the Parthenon to the ruins of Knossos, the Samford trip to Greece was one of incomparable value.



Rwanda

Written by Emily Clark



This Jan Term, eight Brock School of Business students traveled to Rwanda as a part of the social entrepreneurship minor and concentration. Dr. Jeremy Thornton, professor of economics, accompanied by Allison Nanni from Samford's Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership, led the students while they studied development economics.

In Rwanda, the group gained firsthand experience of the intricacies of international development work. The trip exposed students to different kinds of organizations and challenged them to explore holistic development. Each day students visited three to four organizations including large government organizations, such as USAID, and small non-profits, like The Women's Bakery. During these visits, students gained new insights and perspectives about developing economies.

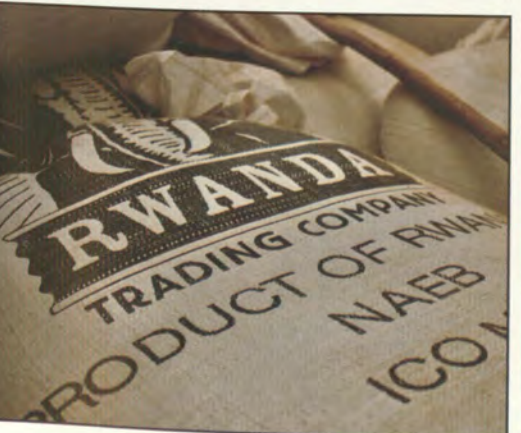
The trip really challenged me to rethink the way I thought about charity and foreign aid," said senior religion major and social entrepreneurship minor, Sam Fink. "It gave me a great framework of critical thinking through which I can more effectively understand these problems and begin to address them."

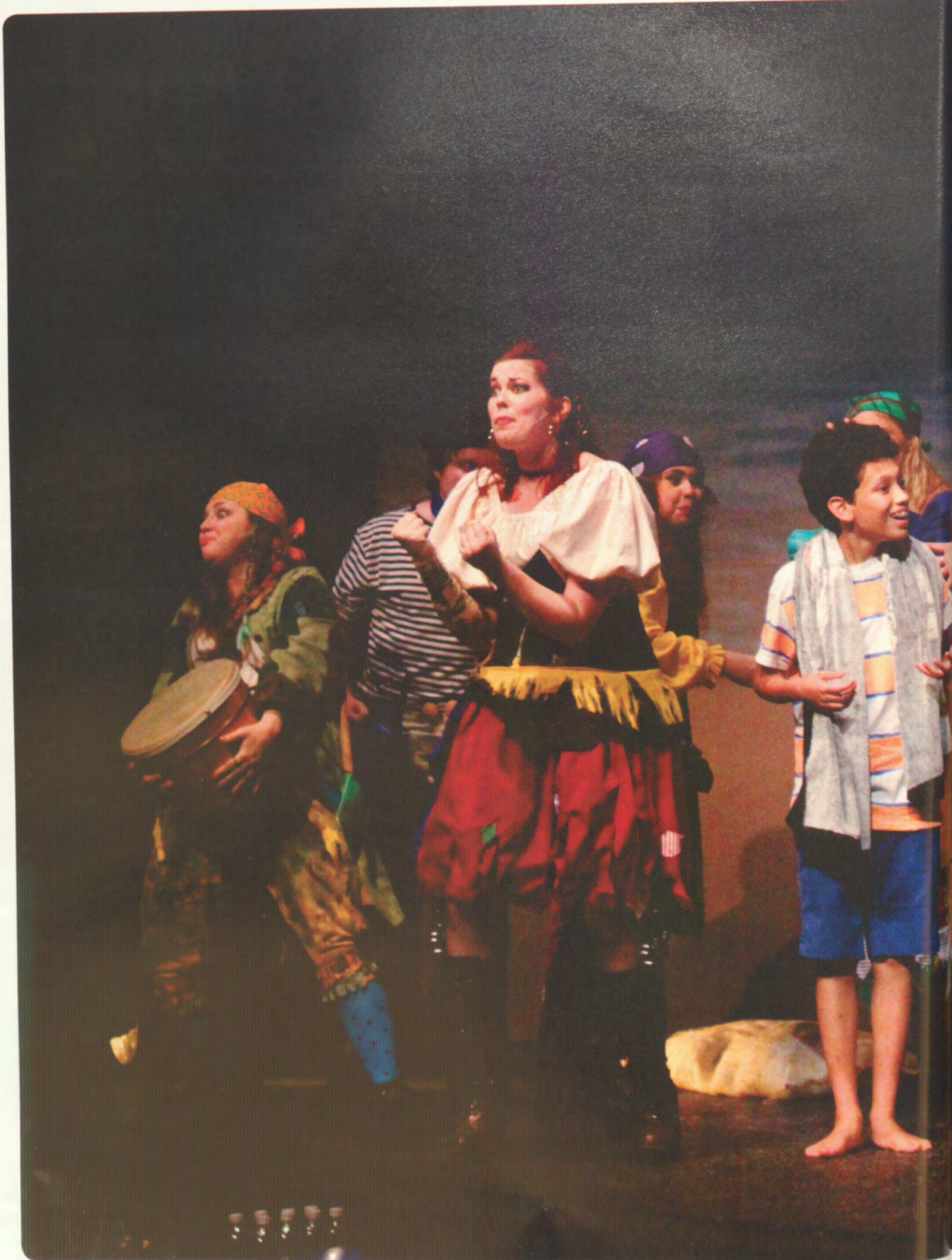
While on the trip, students learned about the role Christianity plays in holistic development. The class walked through scripture passages

together and discussed how they apply to development economics.

"After studying scripture with Dr. Thornton on our trip, I finally understand my position as a believer and as an educated woman how much power I have to influence lives even as complicated as this is," said senior marketing major, Sydney Murphy. "Unfortunately, we may never truly see the ultimate result of our works, but it is not for us to know. We serve a God who is above it all, and that is good enough for me."

Throughout the 10 days spent abroad, students not only visited businesses but also explored Rwandan culture. The group ate at local restaurants, attended a local church, shopped at local markets, and visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial. These life-changing days in Rwanda allowed students to take away valuable knowledge to incorporate into their daily lives and future careers.





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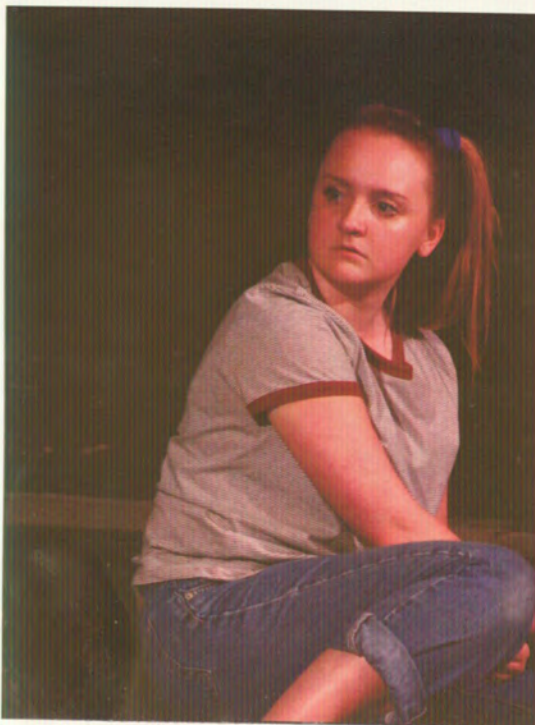
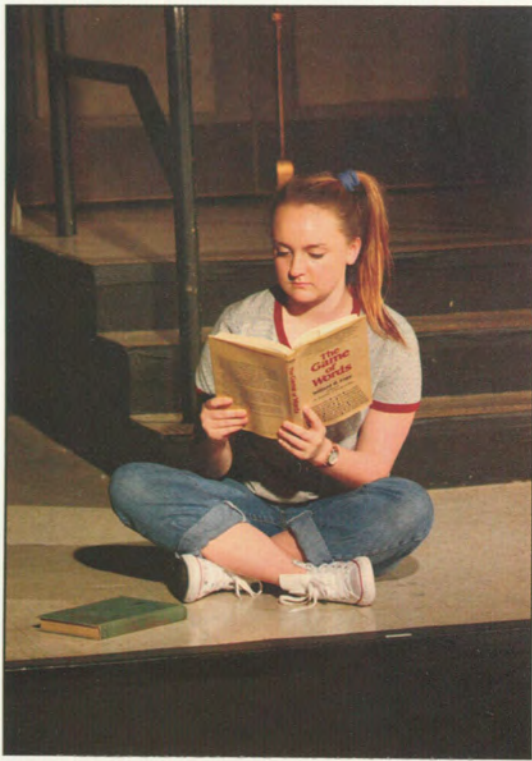


How I Became A Pirate

Pictures courtesy of Katie Roth

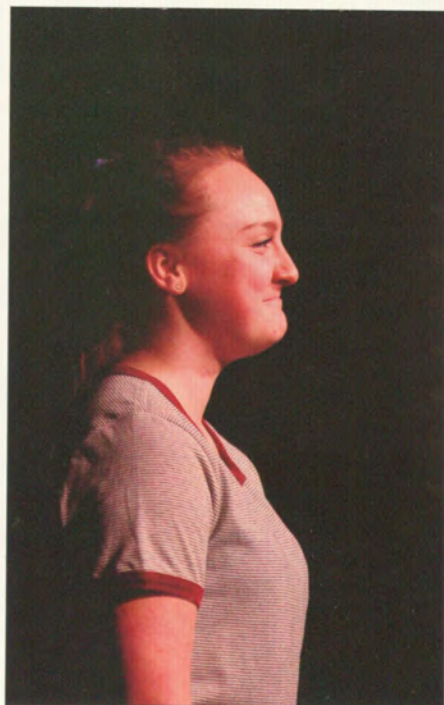






Eleemosynary

Pictures by Katie Roth



Crimes of the Heart

Pictures by Katie Roth



True West

Pictures by Katie Roth



Fall Recap

Written by Rachel Biddy

Music and theatre have been a part of Samford's culture since the earliest years of the university. The high standard of performances that was set early on by Howard College continues today through well-received, high quality productions. In the fall of 2017, Samford theatre students produced, directed and starred in five productions. The productions were: "How I Became a Pirate," "True West," "Crimes of the Heart," and "Eleemosynary."

"How I Became a Pirate" by Mark Friedman tells the story of a young Jeremy Jacob, played by a local middle school student named Joshua Rauterkus. Joshua is captured by a band of singing and dancing pirates because they are in need of someone to bury their treasure. On the ship, the pirates teach Jeremy to talk like a pirate and play soccer by the rules. Actor John Perine said, in the end "both parties learn the most important lesson: there is nothing like a home filled with a family who loves you." The cast performed three high energy performances for enthusiastic school-aged audiences. Perine said after the show students were excited to show the cast that they, too, could talk like a pirate.

"True West" is a dramatic play written by Sam Shepard. "True West" depicts the story of two brothers who are living in their mother's house while she is in Alaska.

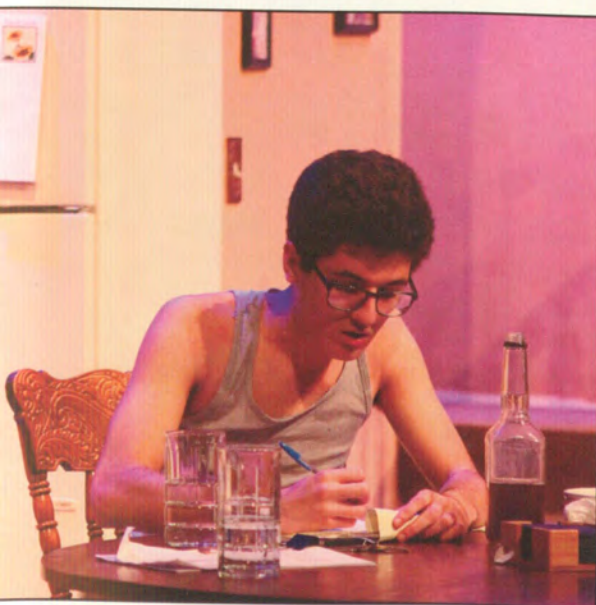
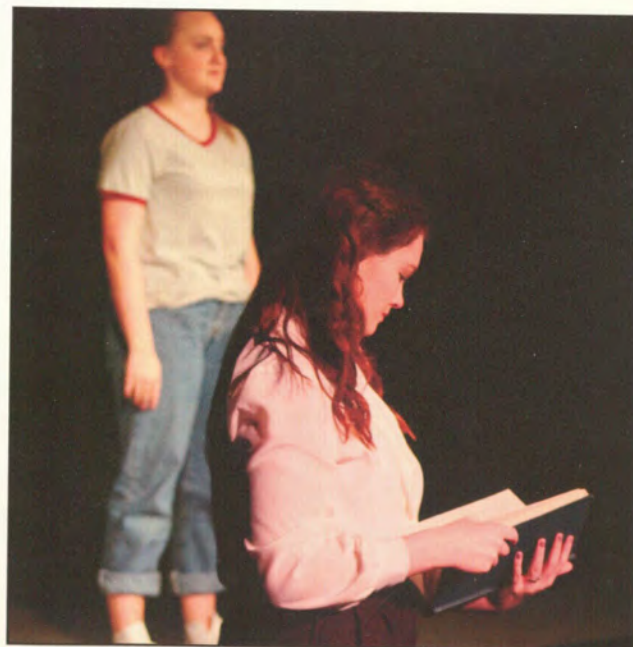
The younger brother is a struggling screenwriter, while the older brother is a never settling con-man. They battle it out inside the house while writing a screenplay together. Throughout the plot of the play their relationship with each other is put to the test and the norms of their bond is flipped on its head. Director Jack Dowey said the play is naturalistic, which means "it is just about as close as we can get to real life on the stage." Dowey's approach included the five human senses. He said, "the goal of this was to really put the audience in the world." Despite the more mature themes that are not usually seen in Samford productions, the audiences gave positive feedback of the play. "True West" highlighted different forms of domestic violence, but what resonated with people most was the more uplifting theme of pursuing your dreams.

"Eleemosynary," written by Lee Blessing, examines the delicate relationship between three generations of women. The grandmother, Dorothea, seeks to exert her independence. The daughter, Artie, runs from her overpowering mother. The granddaughter, Echo, is both intelligent and sensitive. When Dorothea has a stroke, Echo must reconnect with her mother Artie after years of estrangement. Director Katie Beazly said "Eleemosynary" is unique because the characters are "transparent with the audi-

ence, giving those watching the privilege of watching the personal storylines of those individuals from both a third person and a first person standpoint." The audience becomes aware that the women are neither all good nor all bad, but instead humans who do good and bad things. Beazly said that empathy and understanding are essential to the production.

"Crimes of the Heart," by Beth Henley, tells the story of the three Magreth sisters and their relationships with each other. The three women each have a distinct path in life, but at the end of the day their bond with each other is enough to allow them to laugh at the end of the day. Director Ann-Houston Campbell said "Crimes of the Heart" "showcases the beauty of real life." She explained that life isn't always great, but the wonderful moments shared with other people make life worth it. Campbell said, "this message of the necessity of community and familial unity is very important in today's day and age."





Dance

Written by Ally Sorrells



Photo by Breanna Conley

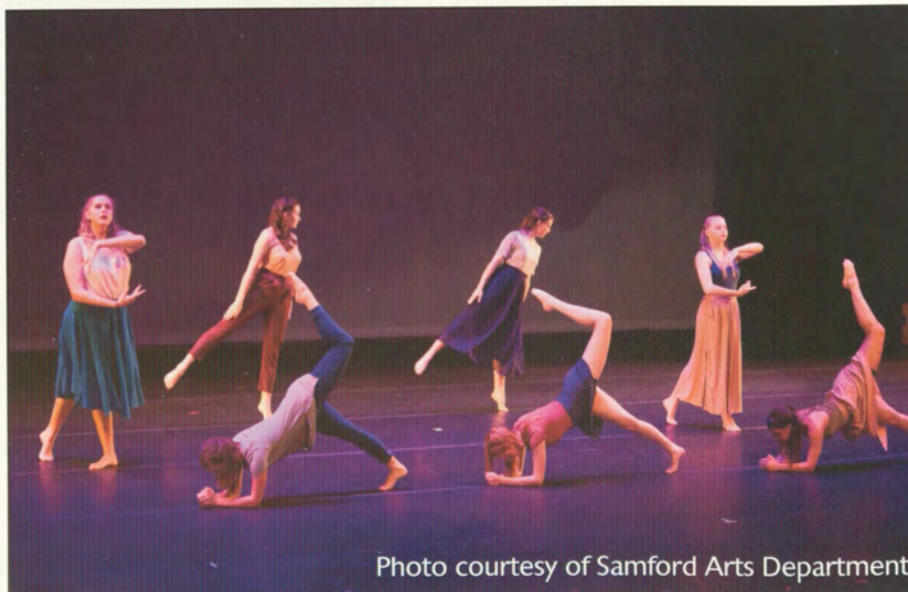


Photo courtesy of Samford Arts Department

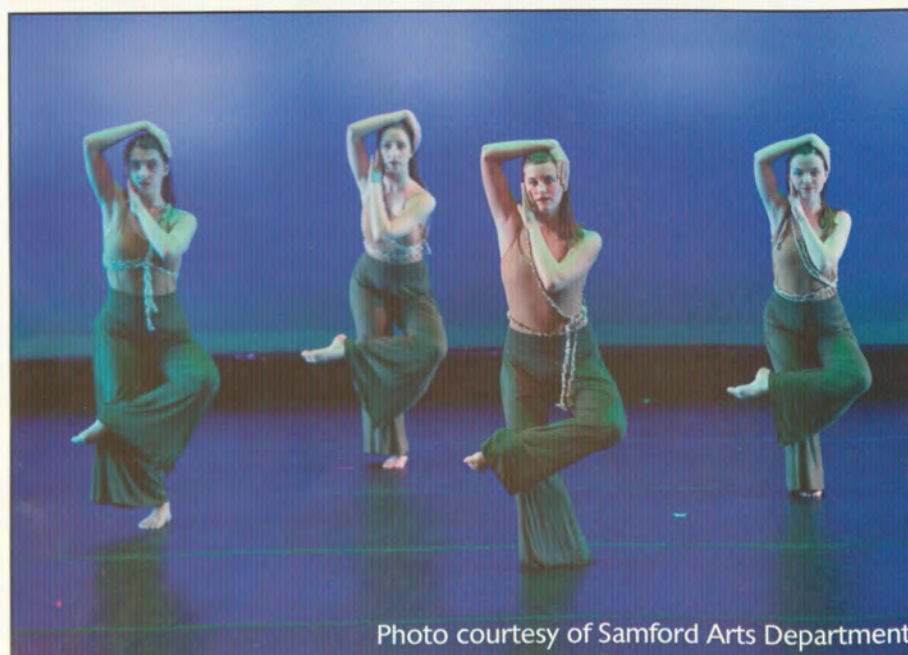


Photo courtesy of Samford Arts Department

The School of the Art's Department of Theatre and Dance prepares students for careers and vocations in the arts. Through the department's various majors and minors, such as the musical theatre major and dance minor, the faculty and staff focus on training well-rounded individuals.

"We aspire to be a leader in undergraduate theatre and dance education with a commitment to the artist as a community partner and contributor," according to the department's website. "At the core of the department's mission is a commitment to character, ethics and artistic excellence."

In order to foster an environment in which students develop the necessary skills to pursue their vocation and prepare for the professional world, the department provides practical, lecture and lab classroom experiences. In addition, as a department of the School of the Arts, theatre and dance students utilize the innovative curriculum Catalyst.

"The Catalyst curriculum symbolizes the heart of an arts education," according to the School of the Arts' website. "The intent of our new curriculum is to facilitate an environment that allows students to illuminate truth, acquire knowledge and discover their passion and purpose."

Through creating an environment in which students can discover their purpose while learning, the Department of Theatre and Dance prepares students for a lifetime of productivity and contribution in their chosen field.



Photo courtesy of Samford Arts Department

Visual Arts

Written by Jared Skinner

One of Samford's most esteemed majors, the Visual Arts Program within the School of the Arts is one of rising honor and popularity. Associate Professor of Art and Design Joe Cory oversees much of what the program is involved with, and he certainly has a full palette.

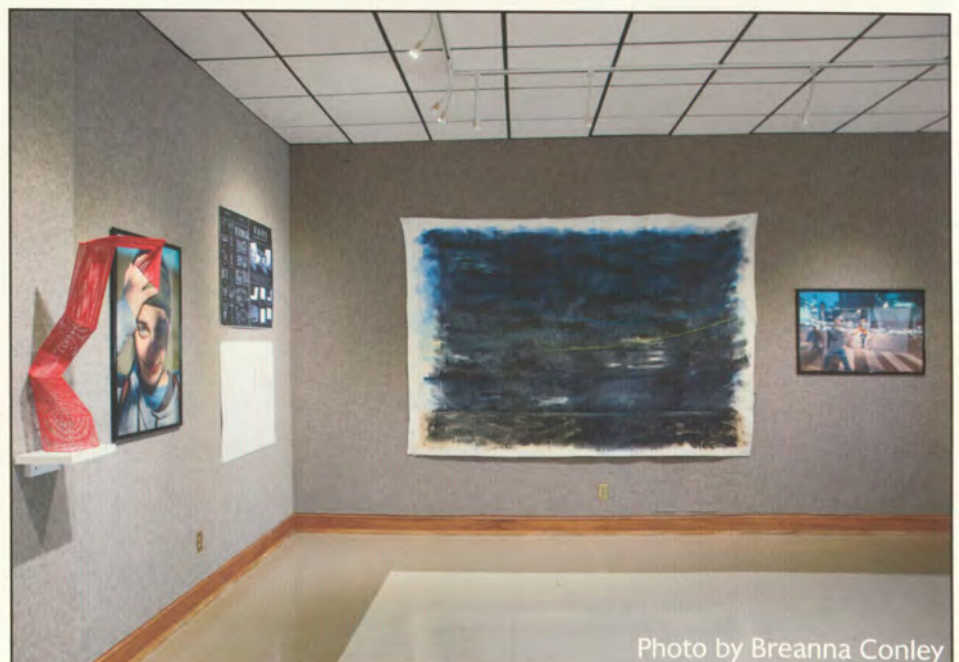
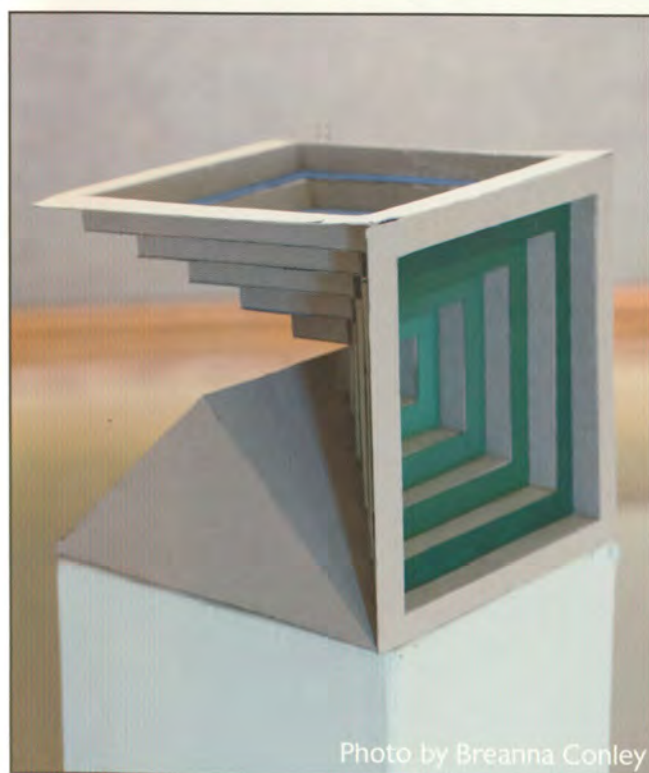
The mission of the program is to educate and develop young artists' talent so that they may demonstrate it to the best of their ability to the world. The program's experienced and talented faculty are focused on fostering an environment of boundless creativity. The goal is for talented young creators to bring their gifts to the local community or wherever they may choose to live following their education. Much of this work is done by the newly designed curriculum called Catalyst.

The Catalyst experience is focused on prompting the most effective methods

to prepare art students for a life of expression and success. Focused on key themes such as responsibility, vocation, immersion, collaboration and preparedness, Catalyst is already developing a track record of success.

Take for example, the event scheduled for the summer of 2018 titled Animate. This is a five-day summer program in artistic worship leadership with students and their mentors. Among the talented guests in attendance will be preacher Meg Lacy, musician Ken Medema and the university's own Joe Cory.

Events like these point to the continued rise of Samford's Visual Arts Program in the field. With a rigorous, competitive curriculum and bright young minds, the future of the Samford Visual Arts Program looks promising.



A Cappella Choir

Written by Mary Clark Herrod

Samford University's A Cappella Choir is widely respected. Students must audition for the choir during the summer and commit to regular rehearsals and performances upon acceptance.

Throughout the year, the choir performs in various capacities. From concerts to convocation appearances, the choir regularly displays their immense talent to other Samford students, to the community and abroad.

Choral Vespers is one of the choir's repeating concerts. Once a month, the A Cappella choir gathers in Hodges Chapel for a free performance of religious choral music.

The choir concluded this year with a joint concert with

the Bells of Buchanan, Samford's hand bells choir. After the Bells of Buchanan performed, the A Cappella choir showcased their voices with several religious songs. They concluded with the song "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord" and invited any past members of the choir in the audience to join them on stage for this final song.

The choir also left just after the end of spring semester for a competition in Europe at which they won the "Grand Prix" against choirs from 12 different countries.

The choir provides many students with the opportunity to sing, travel, and make memories and develop skills and friendships to last a lifetime.



Jazz Band

Written by Ally Sorrells



Photo courtesy of Dr. Grant Dalton



Photo by Breanna Conley



Photo by Breanna Conley

One of the many bands on campus, Samford's Jazz Band provided another opportunity for students to become involved with one of Samford's music ensembles during the 2017-2018 school year.

To become a member of the Jazz Band, students had to audition or be recommended by the director. After becoming a part of the Jazz Band, students were required to dedicate a certain amount of hours to practice each week.

With hours dedicated to practice each week, students strengthened their musical talent and prepared for various concerts they performed in throughout the year. These performances included standard big band and small combo literature from a variety of jazz styles.

Due to the variety of jazz styles played, the members of the Jazz Band became familiarized with a breadth of Jazz music. In addition to being exposed to various jazz styles, some members of the Jazz Band were able to receive class credit depending on their major.

Whether receiving class credit or not, members of the Jazz Band benefited from the experience in the band. The band provided weekly meeting times where members were able to practice their jazz skills and form relationships with one another.

The Jazz Band looks forward to another year filled with a variety of performances, old and new relationships and having the opportunity to revel in the wonder of Jazz music on a weekly basis.



Photo by Breanna Conley

Orchestra

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos by Breanna Conley

Performing throughout the year, the Samford Orchestra provided a wealth of musical talent to campus. From performances featuring operas to musical theatre shows, the Samford Orchestra entertained a diverse group of people.

Due to the required auditions to join, the Samford Orchestra is a group of young individuals who start off their time in the Samford Orchestra with a great depth of knowledge about their instrument. Throughout their time in the Orchestra, the members practice and sharpen their skills as

they become even more musically talented.

Before each performance, the Orchestra dedicates hours of practice to perfect their pieces. As a result, they captivate their audience with their talented performance at each concert.

Samford's Orchestra looks forward to another year filled with multiple performances. With hours spent practicing, the Orchestra loves showing off their musical talent to Samford, the Birmingham community and beyond.



Opera

Written by Jared Skinner
Photos by Breanna Conley



As Director of the Samford Opera, Kristin Kenning has a lot to be proud of this year. Not only was her organization recognized a number of times for their outstanding performances, but they also developed an exciting plan for premiering a new opera in the 2018-19 season.

In the winter of 2017, the University premiered and ran Richard Strauss' classic 1893 iteration of the classic Grimm fairytale "Hansel and Gretel." The production was a multi-departmental success with contributions from Music, Theatre and Dance divisions culminating to perform a moving interpretation of the classic opera.

Elsewhere, Samford Opera was recognized for its talented productions. At the National Opera Association Collegiate Opera Scenes Competition in the Musical Theater Division, two Samford students took home first

place honors. Shelby Terrelland and Reed Hillis were the students recognized for their outstanding iteration of the famous taxi cab duet from the Leonard Bernstein classic "On the Town." In the same competition, Samford Opera's performance of a scene from the aforementioned "Hansel and Gretel" was also named as a finalist in the Opera Division of the competition.

Not resting on their laurels, Samford Opera is busy making plans for the future. Authorized by the School of the Arts and created by Kristen Kenning in a collaboration with librettist Joshua McGuire and composer/pianist Evan Mack, Samford will be premiering its first commissioned opera, "The Ghosts of Gatsby." The result of years of work, the production is sure to be a success and is a sign of the exciting future that the Samford Opera has on its horizon.



Worship Arts Ensemble

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos courtesy of Preston Little

The School of the Arts newest division, the 18-voice, five-piece-band Worship Arts Ensemble, adheres to Samford's ideals to train individuals for ministry. The goal of the Worship Arts Ensemble is to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In order to spread the gospel, the Worship Arts Ensemble performs on-campus and engages with local ministries. Through their performances, which are multimedia spiritual experiences that feature music, dance, visual arts and drama, the Worship Arts Ensemble make the truths of scripture and worship tradition of the church relevant to today's culture. In addition, the Worship Arts Ensemble engages local churches and missions to contribute their gospel-based ideals throughout the Birmingham community.

The innovative ensemble welcomes members from all parts of campus to audition and become a part of Samford's newest worship group committed to spreading the good news.

"Musicians and artists from across campus join together to sing, worship and celebrate the love of Christ and share their talents," said Eric Mathis, associate professor of music worship and director of Samford's Center for Worship and the Arts according to a Samford news release.

With members from various parts of campus, the Worship Arts Ensemble is a diverse group of students that form one common bond: the love of worshiping Christ. Through their common bond, the members of the Worship Arts Ensemble foster relationships with one another rooted in the love of Christ, which allows them to successfully work together to spread the gospel.

As the Worship Arts Ensemble prepares for next year, they look forward to increasing their impact throughout Samford's community and beyond, both nationally and internationally.



University Chorale

Written by Ally Sorrells



Photo courtesy of Dr. Sharon Lawhon



Photo courtesy of Dr. Sharon Lawhon

The University Chorale is one of the many ensembles under the School of the Arts.

As a part of the School of the Arts, members of the University Chorale can receive class credit for their participation. The course counts toward general elective requirements for degrees offered throughout the university.

In order to become a member of the University Chorale, auditions are not required. Therefore, the Chorale is open to a large variety of students, making it the perfect ensemble for students who are interested in music but perhaps lack

the training of students pursuing a degree from the Division of Music in the School of the Arts.

As a class, the University Chorale meets at scheduled times throughout the week as the members prepare for their performances.

Generally, the Chorale performs a variety of quality literature in major concerts and university events. With their campus-wide performances, the University Chorale is an integral part to the School of the Arts and music culture at Samford University.



Photo by Breanna Conley

Children of Eden



Photo by Breanna Conley

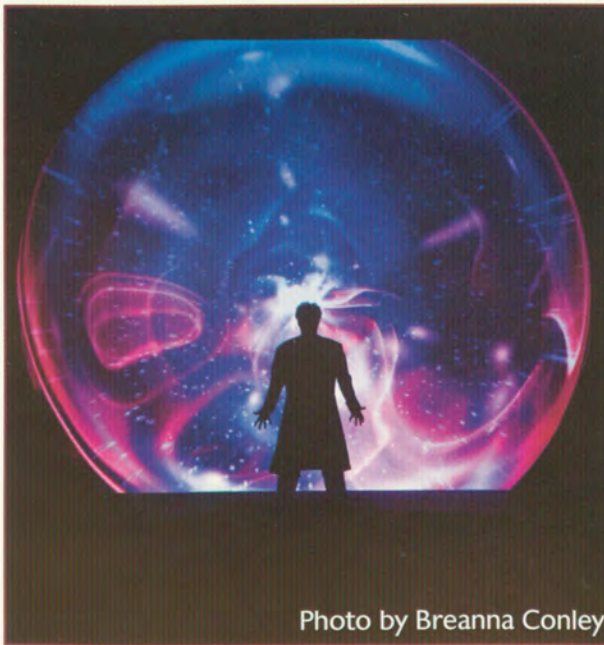


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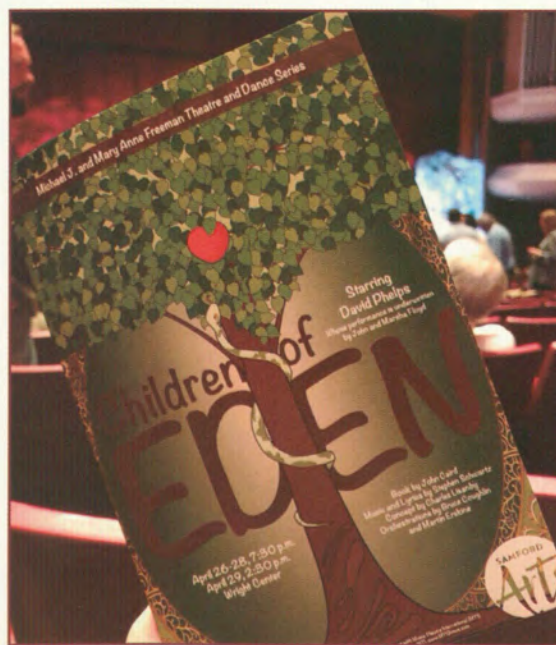


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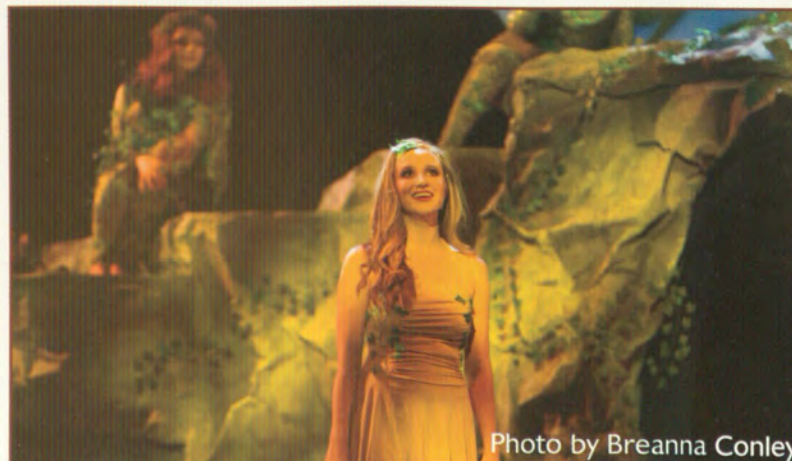


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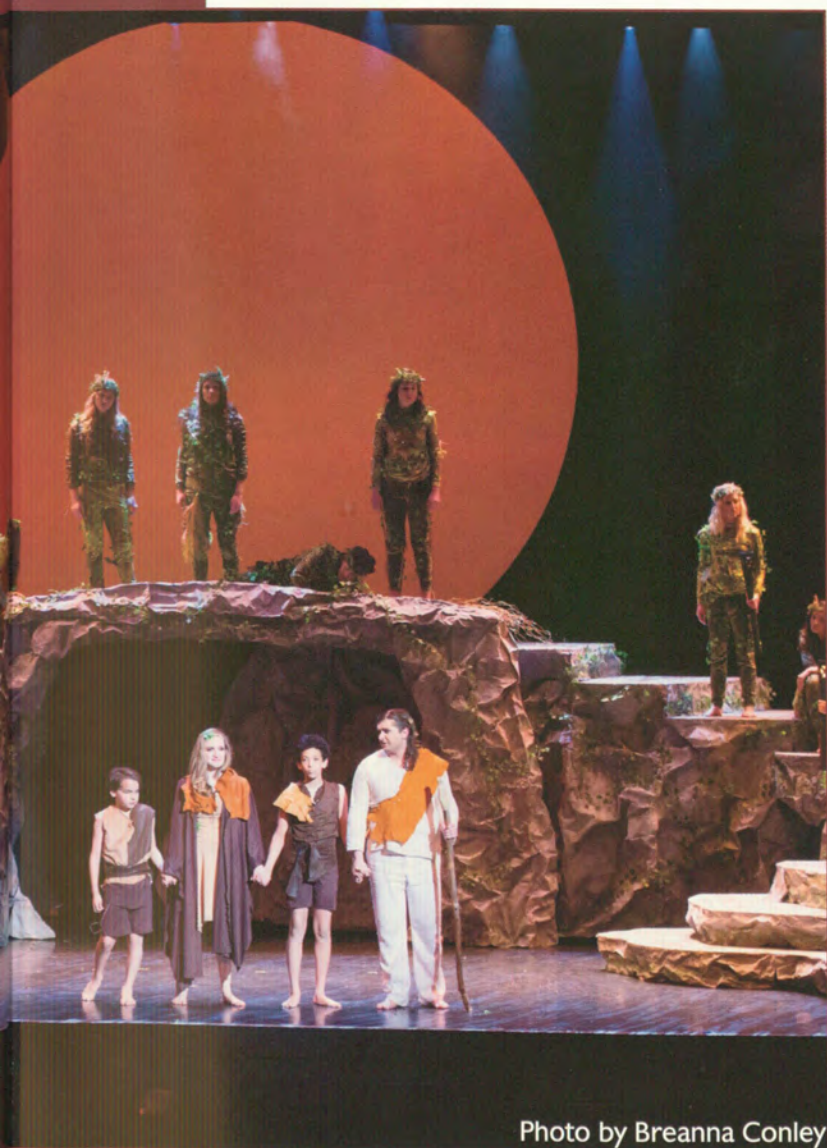


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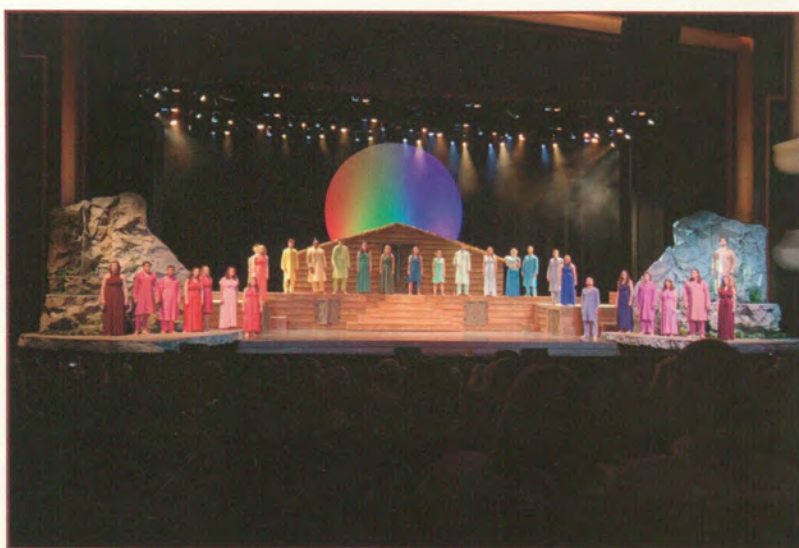


Photo by Breanna Conley

Caucasian Chalk Circle

Photos courtesy of Samford Arts

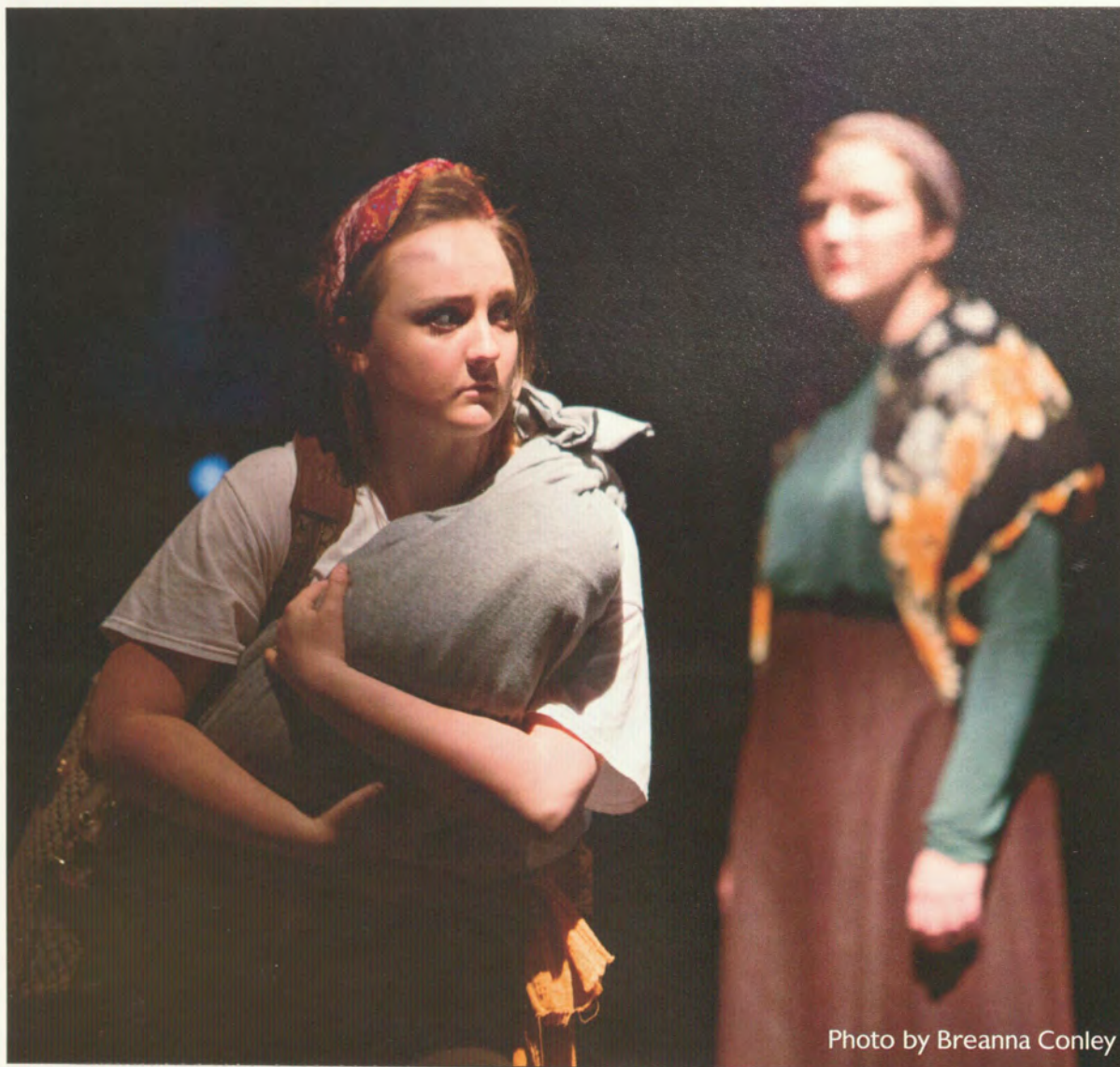
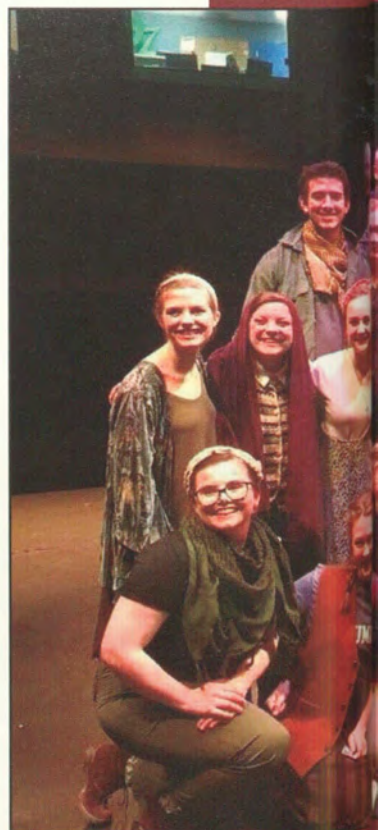


Photo by Breanna Conley





Women of Lockerbie



Photo courtesy of Samford Arts



Photo by Dalton Roach



Photo courtesy of Samford Arts

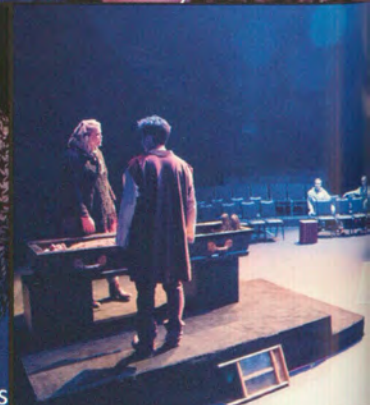


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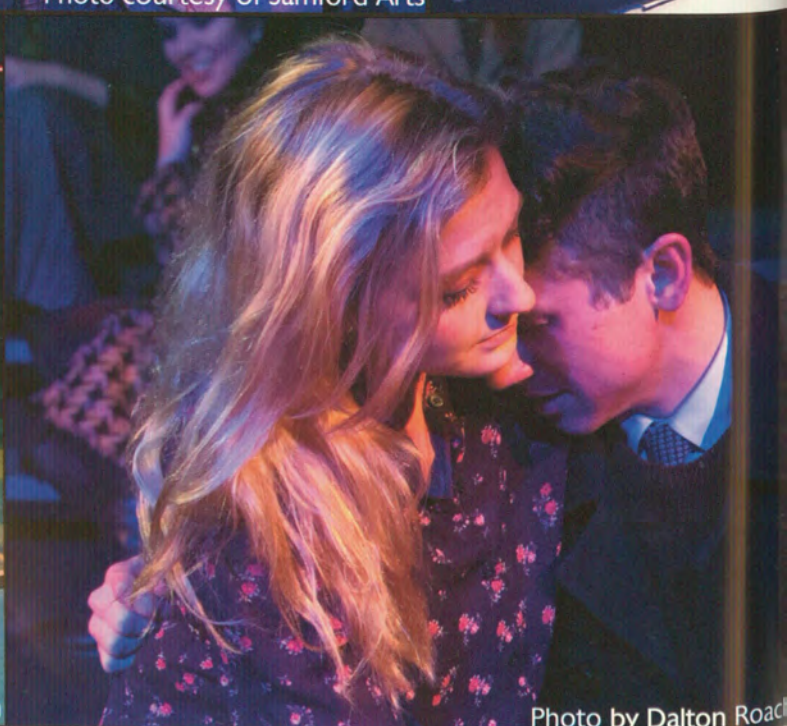


Photo by Dalton Roach

Gidion's Knot



Photos courtesy of Samford Underground Theatre

SAMFORD UNIVERSITY UNDERGROUND THEATRE PRESENTS

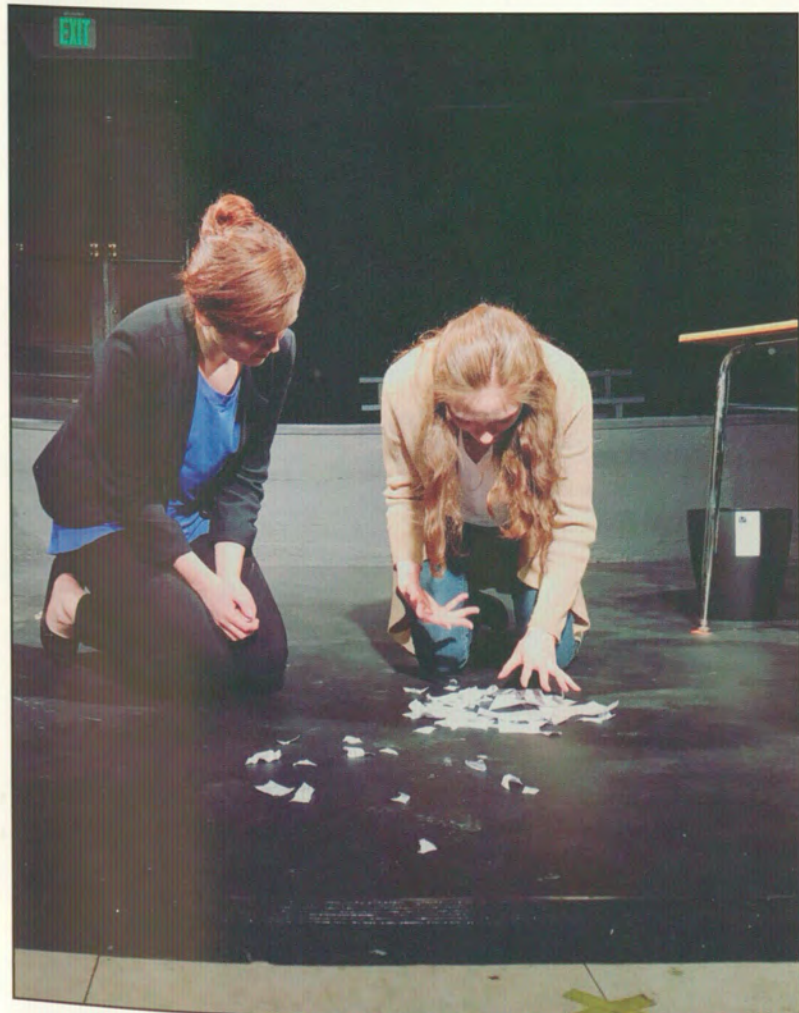
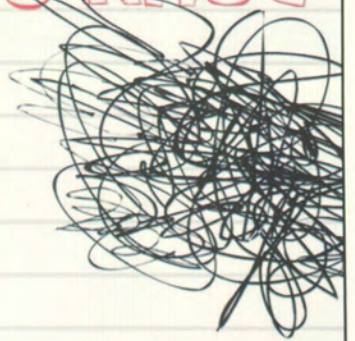
Gidion's Knot

BY JOHNNA ADAMS

APRIL 11 & 12

@ 9 PM

STUDIO 60



Spring Recap

Written by Ally Sorrells

The School of the Arts had a busy spring semester preparing for a variety of different plays. From larger productions to those hosted in Studio 60, the students involved put hours of work into preparing for each performance.

In late March, the Department of Theatre and Dance presented "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" in the Harrison Theatre. Based on a Chinese parable, the play dealt with conflict between law and justice as actors served as both storytellers and teachers. As teachers, the actors guided the audience to rethink their perspectives as the audience enjoyed the play from the stage.

In early April, Samford Underground presented "The Women of Lockerbie" in Studio 60. Loosely based on a true story, the Greek tragedy poetic drama dealt with the triumph of love over hate.

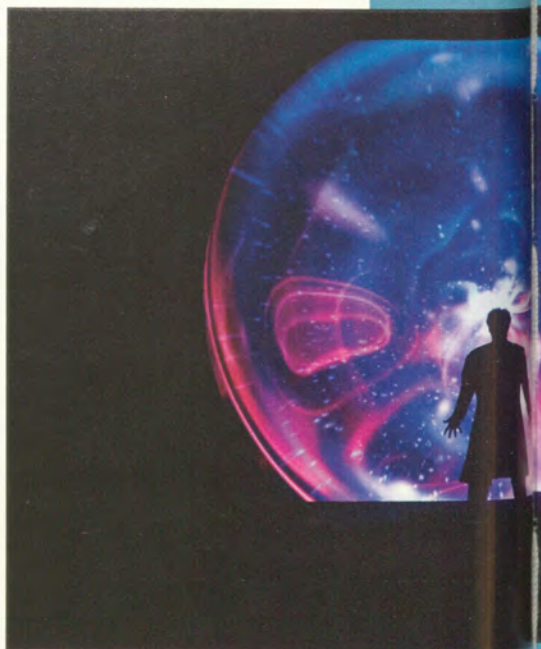
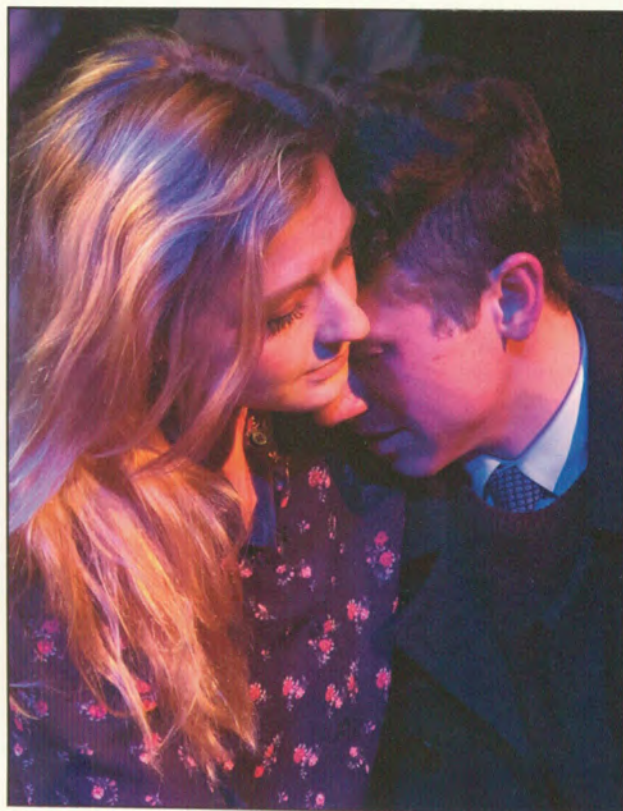
For the last Underground production of the year, the School of the Arts presented "Gideon's Knot" in Studio 60. The play dealt with the subject of suicide as a mother comes to terms with her own child taking his life.

Samford's School of the Arts presented "Children of Eden" as their last production of the year. The musical focused on the story of Genesis from the Bible featuring characters such as Adam, Eve, Noah and the Father as they dealt with the headstrong actions of their children. The play featured student actors alongside special guest David Phelps, who is a Grammy Award winner and member of the Gaither Vocal Band.

With another semester of successful plays in the books, the School of the Arts looks forward to another year filled with interesting plays put on by phenomenal casts.



Photo by Breanna Conley



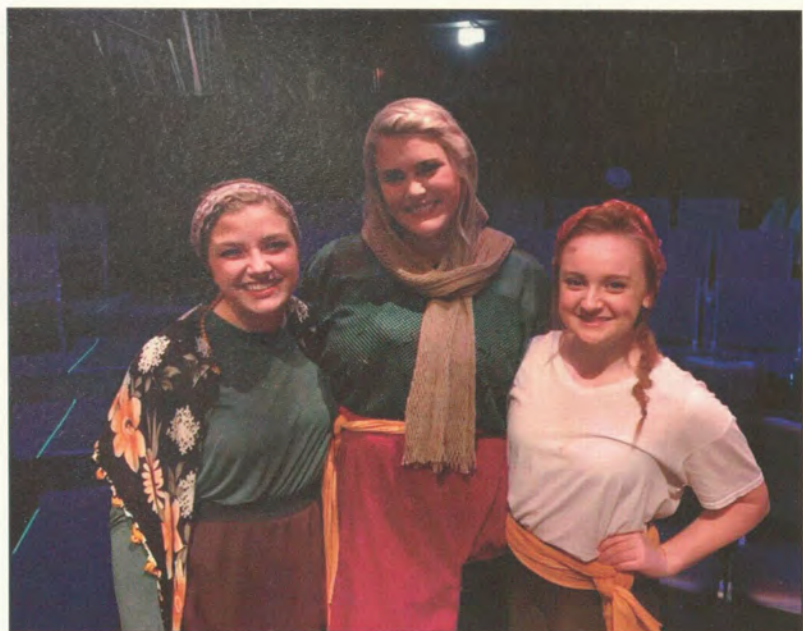


Photo by Breanna Conley

Photo courtesy of Samford Underground Theatre

Photo by Breanna Conley



A background image of a football game. In the foreground, a player in a white jersey with the number 51 is being tackled by a player in a dark blue jersey with the number 30. Another player in a white jersey with the number 8 is visible to the right. The field is green with white yard lines, and an orange pylon is visible in the background.

Athletics

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63 Color Guard

64 Cheer

65 Dance

66 Volleyball

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70 Men's Basketball

72 Women's Basketball

74 Men's Tennis

75 Women's Tennis

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77 Women's Golf

78 Track and Field

80 Cross Country

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Football

Written by Abby Zajac

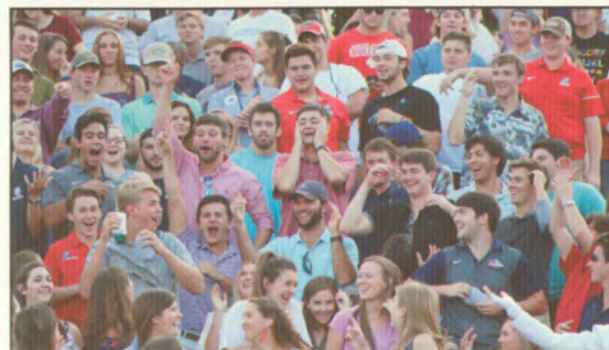
Photos by Katie Roth

As students come back to campus each fall, the Samford football players have already been practicing hard for their opening game. The season opener is a game that all students look forward to as a time to come together and cheer on their beloved bulldogs. The team started the season off strong with a win against Kennesaw State University with the final score of 28-23. However, the bulldogs would lose to KSU during an away game in the first round of the FCS Playoffs on Nov. 25, with the final score of 17-28.

The bulldogs had an overall winning season, finding victory in six conference games against The Citadel, VMI, Wofford, Mercer, East Tennessee State University, and Furman. They lost to SOCON rival, Western Carolina, toward the beginning of the season and lost to Chattanooga at a home game mid-season. Many students traveled to away games throughout the season, especially when the Samford Bulldogs played the Georgia Dawgs in September. Although Samford lost 14-42, students enjoyed being in Athens and the players enjoyed getting competitive with an SEC team.

The Samford Bulldogs are a strong team while having home field advantages. Seibert Stadium has been home to the Samford football team since 1958. The stadium is home to the Cooney Family Field House, including locker rooms, training rooms, meeting rooms and coaches offices for the Samford football program, and the Bashinsky Press Tower. For the 2017 season, after the rebranding of Samford's logos, the new bulldog was painted onto the turf of Seibert Stadium.

Overall, coaches, players and fans were happy with the season, especially since the bulldogs won during Family Weekend, Homecoming and Senior Day. As some of the Samford football players prepared and trained for the NFL draft with Pro Day 2018, others welcomed recruits that will be joining the team the following season. Coach Hatcher takes pride in knowing that the Samford football players are more than just teammates, but become family. He has created leadership among the team and helped players improve during his three years at Samford so far.





Marching Band

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos by Katie Roth

The Samford Marching Band was an integral part to the university athletics program. Throughout their season, the Marching Band showed support for Samford's football team, provided entertainment for spectators, served as another musical outlet for students on Samford's campus and fostered positive relationships between the Athletics Department and the University Band Program.

The Marching Band supported the football team throughout the team's season. Playing at every home game, the football players were able to experience the band's support every time they played in their own stadium. In addition to making an appearance at every home game, the Marching Band traveled to show their support at one of the team's away games.

Along with benefiting the football team and its fans, the Marching Band also benefited its members throughout the 2017-2018 school year. As a part of the University Band Program, some of the Marching Band's main goals were to improve its members' musical talents and provide its members with performance opportunities.

To improve their musical skills, the band practiced multiple times a week before performing at games. This allowed members to

learn new skills, fine-tune the selected pieces they played and grow relationships within the band before performing on game day.

The Marching Band looks forward to the upcoming football season to show their support for Samford's football team, provide entertainment for their fans and continue to increase their musical talent.





Color Guard

Written by Ally Sorrells
Photos by Katie Roth

Samford's Color Guard remained a constant presence this season. Joining the Marching Band at home football games, the Color Guard loyally supported Samford's football team despite the score of the game.

The Color Guard performed alongside the Marching Band during each game's halftime to show off their Bulldog pride.

The members of the Color Guard had to put in multiple hours a week practicing to perfect their routine before performing in front of Samford's fans.

Through their dedication, the Color Guard added additional entertainment to the halftime shows as fans loved to watch the Color Guard dance along to the Marching Band's music.

The Color Guard's and Marching Band's joint performances provided a wealth of support for the football team.

Their dedicated and smiling faces, along with their routines, revealed their love for Samford football and the university as a whole. Samford's Athletic Department would not be complete without them.



Cheer and Dance

Written By Mary Clark Herrod

Samford's dance and cheer teams are integral to the athletic community. Each team works hard to support and cheer on various other athletic teams. Both teams perform on the sidelines at football games, and the dance teams performs at half time with the band. They also both perform and cheer at basketball games.

"It was so great getting to know people I would have never met outside of my major and sorority! I grew many bonds with girls and was glad I could have them as part of my freshman story," said freshman math major and member of the dance team Anna Hussey.

By being a part of these teams, members also have the opportu-

nity to work with other organizations on campus.

"Samford cheer is unlike any other team we have here on campus. Being on the cheer team means that we get to work with athletics, marketing and the Samford community as a whole," said freshman cheerleader Talon Geissler. "It is a group of girls who love being on a team and cheering on the Samford Bulldogs."

Samford Cheer and Dance contribute to the engaging atmosphere of Samford's athletic events by encouraging students and fans to cheer on the bulldogs. These teams are important members of both the Samford athletic community and Samford's community in general.



Photo by Abby Zajac





Photo by Abby Zajac



Photo by Abby Zajac



Abby Zajac



Photo by Abby Zajac

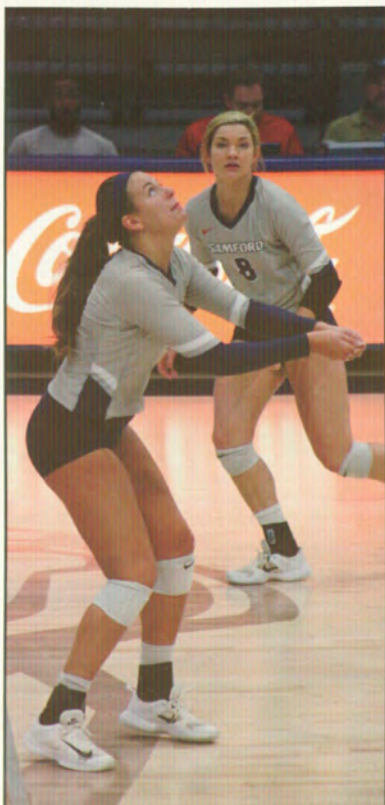
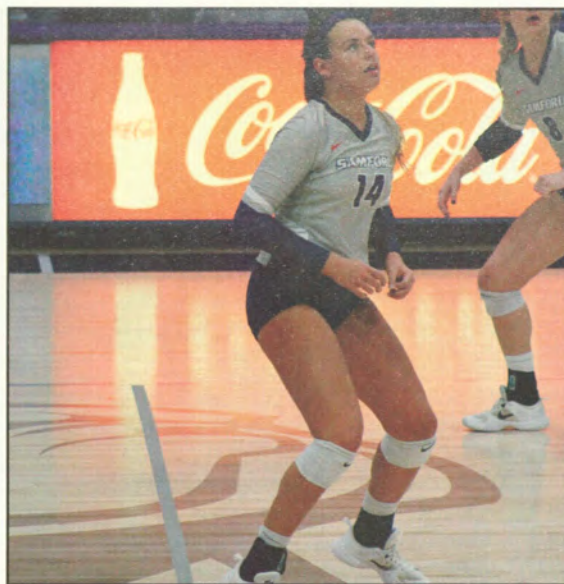


Photo by Abby Zajac



Photo by Abby Zajac





Women's Volleyball

Written By Anne Davis Parks
Photos by Alyssa Hall



Ending their season in the Southern Conference Tournament, the 2017-2018 Samford Volleyball team played well. They came out on top of teams like Mercer, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Wofford. One of the proudest moments for the team was beating the then undefeated Indiana University, which is a Big 10 school.

However, victory on the court was not the only highlight of the season.

"All the little moments, including pushing each other to be better, the fun times we had together and the random memories we made on and off the court, those were the highlights of the year," said junior communication studies and disorders major Krista Boesing. "We had our ups and downs, but in the end it's the little moments you remember the most."

With more than half the team being new players, the returning players were able to strengthen their existing relationships while getting to know the new girls.

"Each teammate of yours becomes your sister within a season and the program has a very special bond that is unique unlike any other program," said senior early childhood/special education/elementary/collaborative major Morgan St. Germain.

Junior health sciences major Taylor Anderton felt supported by the athletes at Samford, but she said there is room for improvement from the rest of the community. Anderton encouraged the Samford community to get more involved in the upcoming season.

"People who attend our games for the first time will come up and explain how much fun they had at the game," said Anderton. "I think people are unaware of how intense and fast-paced the game of volleyball is in nature. Therefore, I believe that if they were to give it a chance they might find that it is very enjoyable to watch."



Women's Soccer

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

Samford's soccer team had another strong year as they fought hard against talented teams such as FSU and Furman. Despite a few losses scattered throughout the regular season, their hard work paid off as they pulled out the regular season SOCON championship title for the fourth year in a row.

In addition to the undeniable talent, the girl's successful season can be attributed to their ability to work well together as a team. The support that ran throughout the team fostered a community of trust amongst the girls, which translates onto the field.

"We were a hard working group of girls who genuinely cared for one another on and off the field," said junior defender and health science major Nyalyn Moore. "I think that was really obvious with how we played with and for one another.

The girls not only supported each other throughout the season, but provided one another with memories that will last a lifetime.

"The highlight of the season, for me personally, was the pregame locker room times," said freshman goalkeeper

and physics and mathematics major Stephanie Westaway. The team would all just get together, have fun, sing and get ready for the game."

As the team prepares for next season, they look forward to progressing and executing another successful season through their talent, support and companionship.

"I'm most looking forward to seeing the progress we make as a team and how we come together for the tough schedule ahead," said Westaway.





Men's Basketball

Written by Anne Davis Parks

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

Victorious against schools like Alabama A&M, Mississippi Valley State, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Western Carolina and The Citadel, the 2017-2018 Men's Basketball team brought more than just athletic talent to campus this year.

"My favorite game was every game that we won and competed because it was a chance to play with some guys I have tremendous love for," said senior public administration major Justin Coleman.

Players look back on the season with fond memories of bonding with fellow teammates, exciting games and abounding school spirit.

Freshman environmental science major J.T. Mumber discussed the team's camaraderie.

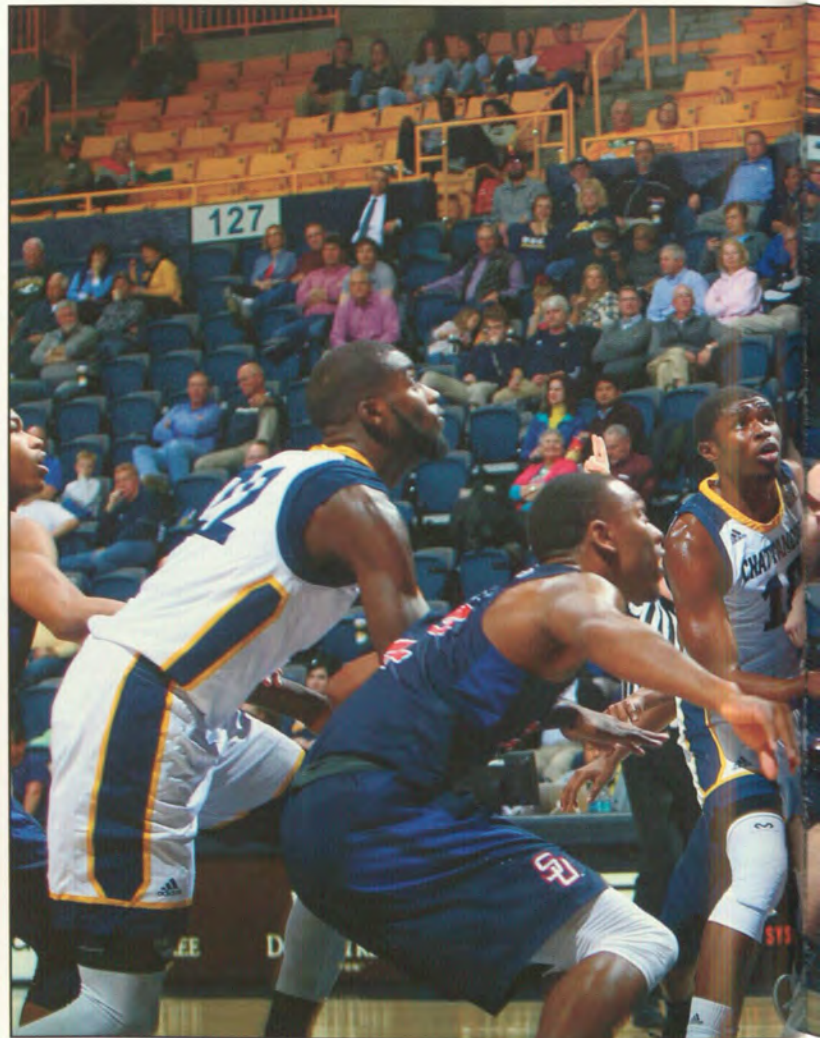
"They really are my brothers, said Mumber. "We look out

for each other and we always have each others' backs."

On the court, the team pulled off impressive wins, including their victory against St. Thomas University by 47 points. They fought hard playing against teams from their own Southern Conference and when competing against top teams from the SEC and ACC, such as Louisiana State University and Clemson University, respectively.

Senior business management major Tanner Tapp leaves with a desire to connect the basketball team with the Samford community.

"A lot of the players might not come off as very social or talkative, but the team definitely wants to get more involved with people and events on campus," said Tapp. "It's fun to get to see your friends and classmates in the stands during home games."







Women's Basketball

Written by Anne Davis Parks
Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

The 2017-2018 Samford Women's Basketball team played fiercely on the court, and their season ended in the second round of the Southern Conference Tournament.

Throughout the season, the team beat various rivals, including Furman, Troy University, University of Southern Mississippi and Wofford. Despite a successful season, winning games was not the only rewarding aspect of being on the basketball team for the players.

"My experience on this team has led me to build relationships with people I would have never met if it wasn't for this game," said sophomore health science major Raven Omar.

Despite a strong bond between the players, the team desires more support from the Samford community.

Even though players grew close to one another, they hope

to see a bigger turn out at games during this upcoming season.

"They should support athletics and really get into the games," said exercise science major Samantha Fitzgerald. "We could build a better culture between athletics and the academic community of Samford."

Despite wanting increased support at the games, the team appreciates the support they received from the Samford community in other areas of their lives.

"So many people here have our best interests at heart and want to see us succeed, not just as athletes, but as people and students here," said Omar.

The team ended their season ranked fifth in the Southern Conference — something the whole community can be proud of.



Men's Tennis

Written by Anne Davis Parks

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

Beating teams like Kennesaw State, Alabama A&M, Wofford, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and making it to the Southern Conference Tournament were the payoffs of the hard work from 2017-2018 Men's Tennis Team.

"I think definitely the highlight of this year was beating UNCG (University of North Carolina at Greensboro) in the first round of conference tournament," said sophomore sports administration major Max Rebol.

Rebol's favorite game was playing Wofford for the team's senior night.

"We had a huge crowd and a bunch of my pledge brothers came out and were going crazy! The atmosphere was awesome and it definitely pulled me and the rest of the team through that one," he said.

Senior graphic design major Austin Heinz also enjoyed that

game.

"With it being my last home match ever, myself and the other four seniors on the team had such an incredible experience that day," said Heinz. "The crowd was awesome and they helped us get a win against a tough conference opponent!"

The support from fellow Samford students throughout the year raised the team's spirits and helped them play better against their opponents.

"The tennis team may not have the biggest fan base, but our fans are incredible," said freshman pre-business major Aleksandar Petrovic. "We've got consistent attendance rates that have been rising throughout the year."

When asked what he wants the Samford community to know about the team, though, he joked, "The tennis courts are located past the AOPI house and down the hill."



Women's Tennis

Written by Ane Davis Parks

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics



Playing fiercely on the courts, the Samford Women's Tennis team ended their 2017-2018 season at the second round of the Southern Conference Tournament.

Winning against teams like Wofford University, Mercer University, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Belmont University and Kennesaw State University, the team dominated the Southeast.

"The highlight of this year on the team has been my teammates. We are all best friends and tennis has bonded us in a way that is different from any other relationship," said sophomore human development and family science major Grace Jennings. "Everyday we go out on the court playing for each other."

The team has developed fun inside jokes — like playing a certain song before every game day—that has allowed them to bond as a team and grow into a family. The members of the team supported each other through the ups and downs of the school year.

"This sport pushes my girls and I harder than many understand. Being a student athlete is not a glamorous lifestyle as many make it out to be," said sophomore nursing major Arianna Beltrame. "All of the girls on the team work so hard to be good students, athletes and friends, and it has a tendency to spread us very thin."

Despite the hard moments that came with balancing tennis, school, family and their social lives, the team's hard work paid off as it made a group of girls into a successful tennis team and made that team into a family.



Men's Golf

Written by Katie Roth

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

The men's golf team played in a total of 11 tournaments throughout the 2017-2018 season, including the Southern Conference Championship in Pinehurst, North Carolina. The team finished with five top 10 finishes and a stroke average of 74.93, which is the lowest team stroke average since Al DelGreco became the head coach in 2014.

Highlights of the season included a fourth place finish at the Samford Intercollegiate and multiple invitations to play in elite tournaments, such as the Jerry Pate Intercollegiate and the Tiger Invitational.

"We had a pretty good fall season and then struggled a little in the spring, but we should be able to make a big jump forward next year," said sophomore accounting major Harlan Winn.

The team consisted of 10 members, including four fresh

men, three sophomores and two juniors, spanning from six different East Coast states and even Canada.

"With every member of the team coming back next year, I'm looking forward to seeing how much better we can get over the summer and hopefully win a few times next year," said sophomore pre-business major Alec Stopperich.

This year's team was led by junior accounting major Aaron Walker. Unfortunately, Walker had a broken hand for half the season, but he came back to play in the conference tournament and placed seventh with 73.22.

"I'd say the team has grown a lot throughout the year, and we're very young, so we have a lot to look forward to next year," said Walker. "It's a great group of guys that I love being around, and we're all happy to be on this team!"



Women's Golf

Written by Katie Roth

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

The women's golf team consisted of seven girls, including a freshman, a sophomore, three juniors, one redshirt junior and one senior. Spanning from five different states — Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Texas and North Carolina — the women found one commonality: a love for golf.

Over the course of the season, the team traveled to nine different tournaments across the Southeast.

In the fall, the women played in four tournaments, which all ended with Samford placing in the top 10. A fall highlight was the Pinehurst Challenge in North Carolina. At the Pinehurst Challenge, the team shot below 300 during all three rounds. The team's best round of the season happened during the second round, scoring a 6-under-par 282.

In the spring, the women played the remaining five tournaments, which included the Southern Conference Championship in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Showing improvement from last year's sixth place finish, the team left the championship with the fourth-place title, which was the team's best finish of the season.

At the end of the season, the individual stroke average was a 77.76, and the team stroke average was 311.04. The

team's best ranked player of the season was sophomore nursing major Hallianne Hobson, who ranked 18th in the Southern Conference Championship.

However, Hobson's favorite moment of the season was not due to her own accomplishments.

"My favorite moment of the season was the last round of the conference. I finished in the group before our senior, Kate Collom. I got to see her play her last hole of college golf, and we had a special and bittersweet moment," said Hobson. "Since our team is small, we are all close and always have fun together."

Kate Collom, a senior journalism and mass communications major, has also grown close with her teammates over the years.

"We are such a tight-knit family, and I will always be close with them the rest of my life," said Collom. "I will miss laughing in the van with my teammates, enjoying a beautiful day at Greystone Country Club — our home course — and of course, those days where you are playing really well in tournaments."



Track and Field

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

Samford University's track and field team had a consistent year with team members placing in the top five in various different events at multiple meets. Their persistence and strong team bond led them to a successful year full of perseverance, team bonding, and a championship title.

The Bulldogs performed exceptionally during their indoor season. Starting the year off strong, sophomore Rachel Dixon and junior Ben Bryant placed first in the women's 500-meter dash and the men's 3,000-meter dash, respectively, at the UAB Blazer Invite.

By the end of their indoor season, the Bulldogs were able to claim first and second place at the SoCon Indoor Track and Field Championship. The women's track and field team placed first in the tournament for their third consecutive year. The men's team came in second, falling short only to Western Carolina winning their fifth consecutive championship title.

The Bulldogs also had a strong start to their outdoor sea-

son. Starting off the season at the Mississippi State Relays, Sarah Sanford, Matt Cahoon, Maggie Johnston, Keyth Fightmaster and Selena Popp placed within the top five for their events.

The track and field team also found success at the SoCon Outdoor Track and Field Championship. Both the women and men's teams placed second, barely falling short to Western Carolina. In addition to their second-place title, team members placed first in various different events. Maggie Johnston beat the championship record set by herself the year before and grabbed the first place title in the women's discus event. In addition, Selena Popp placed first in the heptathlon and the high jump. For the men, Keyth Fightmaster placed first for the men's high jump and Arsène Guillorel placed first in the 1,500-meter run.

Overall the men and women's track and field team had another successful season. As they prepare for next season, the team looks forward to forming more memories and securing more titles.





Cross Country

Written By Ally Sorrells

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

With a young team, Samford's cross country team found themselves in a year of growth and hard work. Starting the season off at the Jacksonville State University Strut Season Opener, the Bulldog's found themselves placing within the top ten. The women placed sixth in the women's 4k, while the men took home fifth place for the men's 5k.

Later in the season, the Bulldogs competed at the well-known Louisville Classic. Competing against various strong Division I teams, such as Boise State and Furman, the women's team fought hard to finish 11th in the tournament out of 37 Division I Teams.

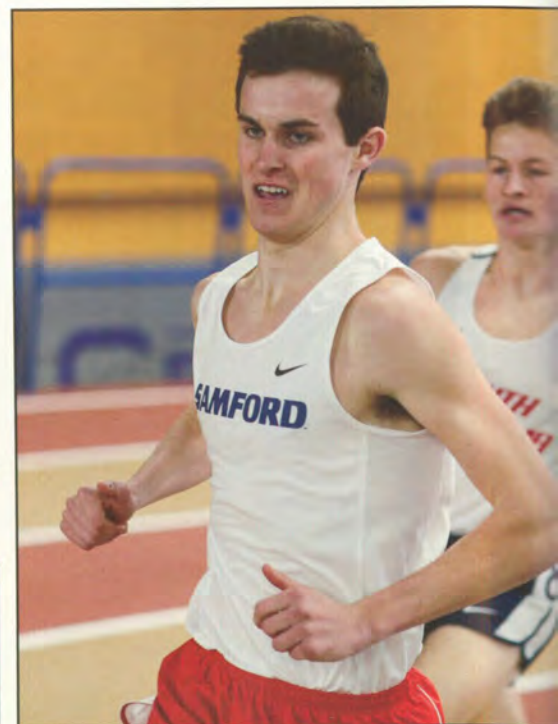
In October, the Bulldogs competed at the Crimson Classic hosted by the University of Alabama. Finishing fourth out of 31 schools, the women's cross country team fought hard to beat other Alabama native teams, such as Alabama and UAB. The men came in eighth place competing against 29 other schools, such as Auburn and Texas A & M.

Perhaps the highlight of the season, the Bulldogs took home the second and third titles

at the SoCon Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships in October. With a second-place finish in the women's 5k by senior Karisa Nelson, who was followed by multiple other Bulldogs finishing in the top 20, the women's cross country team took home the second-place title. The men took home third place in the 8k race. Senior Arsène Guillorel finished in sixth followed by two other Bulldogs in the top 20.

At the NCAA Regionals hosted in November, the women's team placed third behind Ole Miss and the University of Georgia. Led by seniors Karisa Nelson and Anna Long, the team finished third with Nelson and Long qualifying for the NCAA Championship meet. The men placed 10th with Guillorel finishing ninth overall.

Despite an overall young team, the men and women's cross country teams found success throughout their season. As the teams prepare for next season, they look forward to building up their young team and placing in various different meets.





Baseball

Written by Abby Zajac

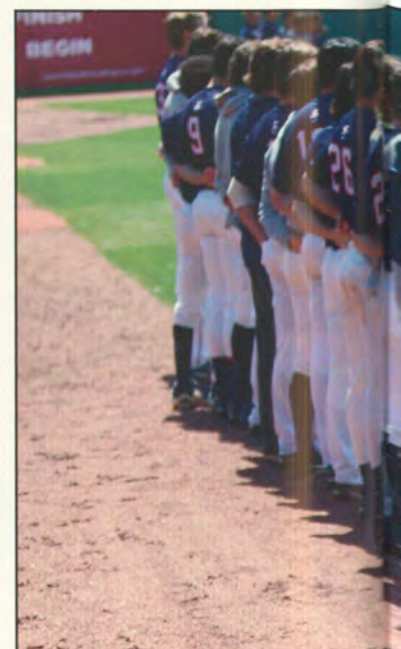
Photos by Katie Roth

The Samford Baseball team has proven strength during their 2018 Spring season. With a record of 36-24, the bulldogs won 19 games with home field advantage at Joe Lee Griffin Field. On the road Samford won 13 games. Most importantly, Samford's SoCon record was 16-8 leading them to the SoCon Championship in May, where they became the 2018 SoCon Champions in a game against SoCon rival, Mercer. They will play Florida State in the NCAA opener, hoping for another title.

Throughout the season, Samford Baseball made history. In a home game for their regular-season finale against VMI, senior Greg Mula made history by playing all nine positions throughout the game. He started the game as catcher and pitched for the first time in his collegiate career during the eighth inning. Samford baseball recognized 11 seniors prior to the game against VMI including Erin Baldwin, Wyatt Burns, Austin Edens, Jake Greer, Mathew Howington, Do Jin, Caleb Maggio, Greg Mula, Josh Rich, Cody Shelton and Tristan Widra.

Additionally, two of Samford's freshman on the team were honored by the Southern Conference. Samuel Strickland, a pitcher, was named the SoCon Freshman of the Year. He is the third player from Samford to be given this honor, with the last being teammate Austin Edens in 2015. Brooks Carlson, plays in the infield, and was given Second-Team honors from both the league's head coach and the media.

Overall, Samford baseball had a strong winning season on and off of the field. The baseball players are known for upholding standards on the field and in the classroom, as well as giving back to the community. The Samford family is proud to cheer on Samford baseball.









Softball

Written by Ally Sorrells

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

With over half the team comprised of underclassmen, Samford's softball team has a group of young talent that worked hard throughout the entirety of their season.

Despite various hard matches against teams such as University of Georgia, University of Alabama, Mississippi State, Mercer and Furman, the team worked hard and supported one another throughout the whole season.

After a rough opening tournament in the beginning of February, the women pulled a big win against Evansville in the second tournament of the season. The Samford Bulldogs were defeated by Evansville in the first tournament by 8 points, but turned it around and beat Evansville 11-5 during the second tournament.

The Bulldogs also beat teams such as Indi-

ana State, Tennessee Tech, Alabama State, Tennessee State, Rhode Island, Alabama A & M, ETSU, Chattanooga, Jacksonville State University, Mercer and Furman.

One of the biggest highlights on the field for the Bulldogs was in the SoCon Tournament at the end of the season. The women beat second-seeded Mercer 10-6 to advance in the tournament. They ended their season in the tournament against Furman, but the women walked off the field proud of their performance as they only allowed third-seeded Furman to score one run.

As the team prepares for the next season, they look forward to building upon their record and talent as the young players become older, stronger and more seasoned.



SAMSPYS

Written by Jared Skinner

Photos courtesy of Samford Athletics

Modeled on the popular Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards (ESPYS), the SAMSPYS are an annual ceremony where Samford's athletes take center stage. The celebration is held to honor the talented student-athletes, teams, faculty and coaches for their various achievements and hard work throughout the year.

This year was no exception, as a range of students took home awards in a host of categories.

Located at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham — Wynfrey Hotel, the service is a few hours where the busy student-athletes can relax and enjoy an evening crafted for them. Like the ceremony it is based on, the SAMSPYS are designed to be a relaxing and lighthearted affair.

Josh Rich, a baseball player and Mr. Bulldog Nominee, said he appreciates the ceremony for letting all the athletes dress up

and have some fun.

"We spend so much time in athletic clothes running around and sweating that we don't even realize that we actually clean up pretty nice," said Rich.

Honoring close to 20 various athletes, coaches and faculty each year, the ceremony is an excellent reminder of the hard work and determination it takes to build a successful Division I program. With the soccer, baseball and women's indoor track taking home SoCon titles this year, it was undoubtedly a long night of awards.

The SAMSPYS are always a kicking time and the athletic department asks that next year the student body focuses their attention to all of the university's talented athletic teams. Hopefully next year's seasons will bring as much success as the present one did.



Campus Recreation

Written by Abby Zajac

Campus Recreation is responsible for not only intramural sports but also athletic activities on campus including fitness classes and overseeing the hours that the gym is open for students to use.

With the help of Campus Rec, different student organizations are able to partner with Samford Athletics. For example, this spring, members of the Public Relations Student Society of America were able to partner with Samford Baseball to provide more information on their PR campaign for With Purpose, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about childhood cancer.

Also, with the help of Campus Rec, Greek organizations were able to host fundraisers for their National philanthropies. For example, Delta Delta Delta hosted a dodgeball tournament this spring to raise money for St. Jude, a leading children's hospital pioneering research and treatments for kids with cancer and other life-threatening diseases. Like Tri Delta, Chi Omega hosted a basketball tournament, Swishes for Wishes, benefitting their National philanthropy Make-A-Wish. Make-A-Wish helps children with life-threatening medical conditions live life to the fullest by granting a wish of their choice. Both of these events were successful in raising funds for their individual philanthropies as well as inviting students from all areas of campus to enjoy the events.

The different intramural sports that Campus Rec provides and invites students to participate in are flag football, soccer, basketball, billiards, table tennis, softball 4x4 Volleyball, dodgeball, kick-

ball and spike ball. For both fall and spring seasons, each sport welcomes students from across campus to participate. Most seasons also include play-offs and are formed in brackets. Each member of the winning team receives a Campus Rec intramural champion T-shirt.

Campus Rec. is also responsible for club sports. The club sports they offer include a Men's Rugby Club, Women's Ultimate Frisbee Club, Soccer Club, Bass Fishing Club, Men's Ultimate Frisbee Club, Women's Lacrosse Club, Samford Crew Club and a Samford Golf Club. All of these leagues are affordable and play competitively. Most of them also have a separate contact, who serves as either a coach or team captain, that can be found on the Samford Campus Rec website.

The majority of Samford's student body is involved in Campus Rec, from enjoying fitness classes to participating in intramurals.





Faith

90 Campus Outreach

91 Delight

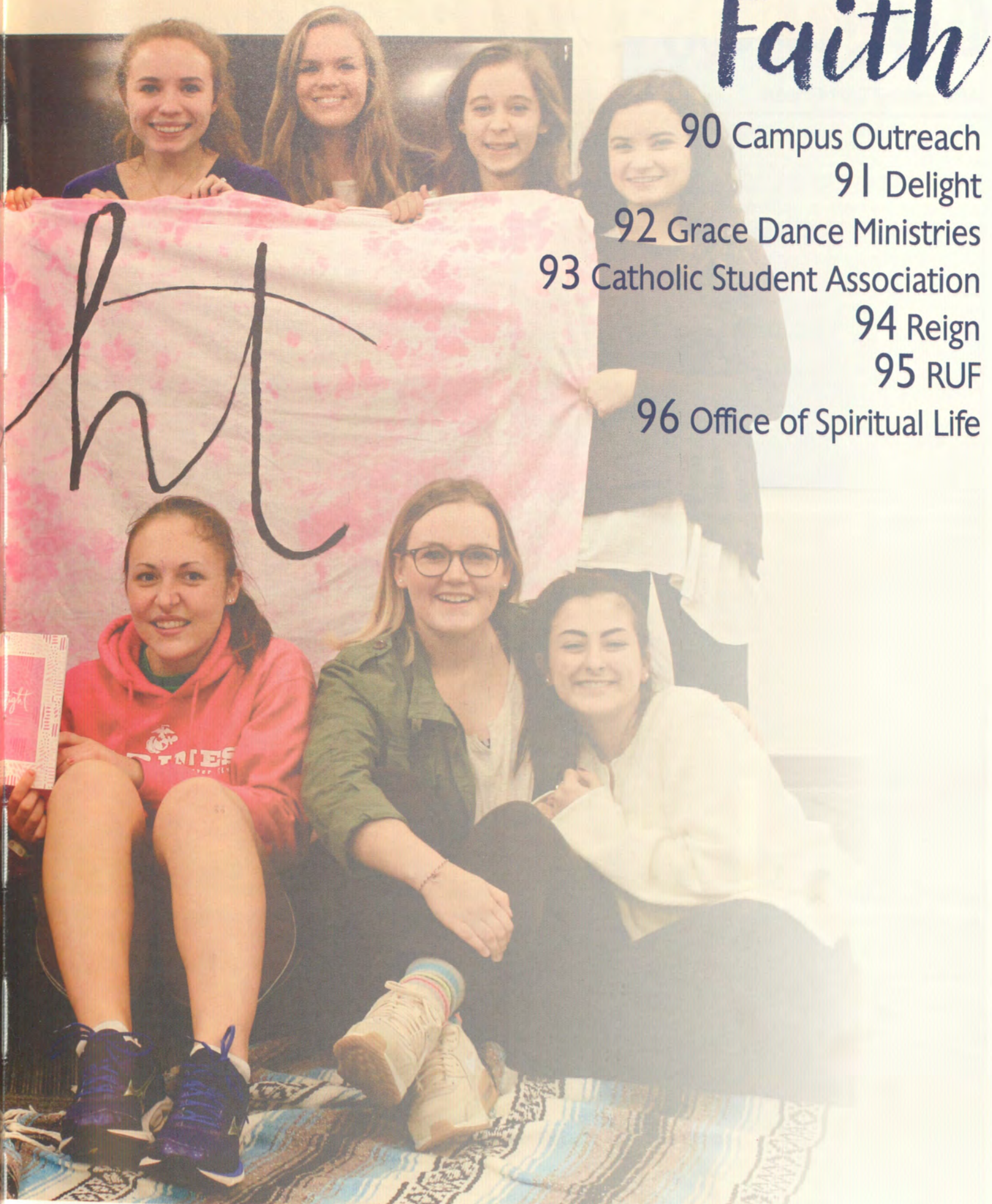
92 Grace Dance Ministries

93 Catholic Student Association

94 Reign

95 RUF

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Campus Outreach

Written by Tori Green

Campus Outreach, commonly referred to as CO, came to Samford University in 1978 with the mission of glorifying God by building laborers for the lost world. Campus Outreach aims to prepare students through evangelism, prayer, and discipleship.

CO holds weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings at Harry's. Each meeting includes student-led worship, a lesson given by Campus Outreach staff members, and occasional doughnut breaks for students to build community. Campus Outreach also offers a Tuesday Bible study for students who cannot attend Wednesday night meetings.

For Micah Evans, director of Campus Outreach at Samford, the mission of Campus Outreach is to glorify God.

"In Matthew 9, Jesus said the 'harvest was plentiful, but the laborers were few,'" said Evans. "Campus Outreach exists to glorify God by building laborers on the campus for the lost world. As a result, all of our events — the weekly meetings, New Years Conference, Summer Beach Project, and other events — are designed to raise up more and more followers of Christ who love God and his Word and live for him as laborers for a lifetime."

New Year's Conference and Summer Beach Project are two of CO's larger events. Both of these events encourage students to develop a deeper relationship with Christ and teach college students how to use their faith on a college campus.

Senior Katelin Bundy spent all of her summers during her college career with Campus Outreach. She attended two Summer Beach Projects and a Cross Cultural Project to Qinhuangdao, China.

"Two years ago, the Lord graciously drew me to Himself in full sur-

render through this ministry, and I could leave that there as how this ministry has impacted me, but it didn't stop there," said Bundy. "What I love about this ministry is how important discipleship is, and because of that I wasn't left in a 'high' of becoming a follower of Christ, but the Lord used people in CO to continue to encourage me, challenge me, and point me to Him in my daily walk. Since being at Samford, I have found my closest friends and deepest community through this ministry."

Campus Outreach has impacted many students at Samford who deeply believe in the importance of discipleship and in training students to tell others about Christ. Campus Outreach welcomes all students who have not been involved in New Year's Conference, Summer Beach Project, or have never been to a meeting before.



Delight

Written by Emily Clark

Delight, a Christ-centered community for college women, gathered weekly this year on Monday nights to spend time in worship and fellowship. Each week, women read a fellow woman's testimony and spent time reading the Bible, praying, and worshipping. These activities encouraged members of Delight to grow deeper in their faith.

As members developed stronger relationships with Christ, they were also able to deepen their relationships with each other. Through their transparency with each other, Delight women experienced a year of building strong relationships with one another. These intentional relationships have been one of the most cherished aspects of the Delight community.

"Some of my favorite college memories will be from Delight because of the community of girls it has brought me," said senior finance major, Savannah Steward. "These friendships have been life-giving, filled with belly-aching laughter, and constant grace. It has been such a blessing to have been poured into through Delight leaders and now I have the honor of pouring out into our girls. Delight will always hold a special place in my heart."

In addition to weekly meetings, Delight held various events throughout the year to foster its community. These fellowship events included doughnut nights and worship on the quad. These events provided members with additional time to learn more about the women they spent time with every Monday night.

"I have been going to Delight since freshman year," said junior nursing major, Meredith Hirt. "I have really gotten to know these girls on a personal level through sharing each other's stories. It has been such a great blessing to have a supportive community in college."

The Delight community has been a unique aspect of Samford's

campus as it has brought women of all majors and years together through fellowship. The organization has continually encouraged its members in their everyday pursuit of God and will continue to encourage women from all walks of life to join and become a part of their fellowship.



Grace Dance Ministry

Written by Emily Thomas

Grace Dance Ministry is a faith-based organization that offers free dance classes to students at Samford. The group describes itself as one that "loves God and loves others." They dance as a way to get closer to God. The dance classes are every Wednesday night from 6:30-8. Each week features a new dance style, ranging from hip-hop to jazz to contemporary. There is a class for everyone; if someone doesn't particularly like a certain dance style, then they can just skip that class and go to the next one. The group accepts all levels of dancers, from beginner to advanced. By attending three classes, anyone can become a member of the company, making it extremely easy to get involved.

Emily Spradling, the director of Grace Dance, said "Grace Dance is one of my favorite things about Samford. I love it because of all the girls that I've met through it, and the ability it gives me to worship through dance! I didn't grow up in studios learning how to dance, it was more of just something that I really enjoyed doing. What's so cool about Grace, everyone is welcome! No matter if you've danced your whole life or never taken a lesson, you can do this thing you love with other people who love it too!"

Each class begins with a short devotional. Each month, a specific Bible verse is chosen and every class you learn and memorize a little bit

more of it. It is a great way to keep God in your mind throughout the week. Then the dancing begins. Each dance instructor choreographs their own dance, and many of them are experienced with multiple styles of dance. The class is fun and a great way to stay active. Cecilia Field, a freshman and member of the company, said "I joined Grace Dance Ministry because I love the welcoming and God-centered atmosphere. Whether you have danced before or not, it's a place to come dance, worship God, and fellowship."

At the end of April, the group has a spring show that everyone at Samford can come watch. Even people from outside Samford can come and enjoy the show. They showcase multiple dance styles with multiple themes. It is a great way for all of the girls in Grace to show what they have learned over the year and have a sense of accomplishment for working hard.

Madeline Perkins, previous president of Grace Dance, said "this is a community where girls who love the Lord and love to dance spend time goofing off, working out, and talking through life with each other."

Grace Dance is a place where every girl can come and be themselves and just enjoy spending time with each other and God.



Catholic Student Association

Written by Becca Weatherford

Since its foundation in 2009, Samford University's Catholic Student Association has provided Catholic faculty and students an opportunity to connect with one another and the faith. The CSA is associated with St. Stephen, the Martyr Catholic Chapel in downtown Birmingham. Its priest, Father Vu Douglas, visits Samford's campus to offer Mass every Thursday during convo hour. Outside of weekly Mass, the CSA hosts monthly sacramental, educational, and social events.

"The CSA is very important to me because it gives me a community of college students who share the same faith as me," said sophomore chemistry major, Erin Prester. "They help me to grow in many aspects of my life, such as faith, leadership and friendship."

The CSA provides students with the opportunity to engage with other students and adults who share similar mindsets.

"We are able to grow together in our faith by participating in the Sacraments on campus and learning from various speakers," said CSA president, Madeline Fric. "We are a community built on prayer, which provides comfort and a presence for Catholics on campus as well as the non-Catholics."

The CSA provides various opportunities for students to get involved.

"Through our large GroupMe, weekly Mass, Catholic Home Group,

women's Bible study, men's Bible study, and various other activities we host throughout the months, students in the Catholic Student Association have ample time to meet other individuals who not only share their faith but also other interests," said Fric.

Furthermore, the Samford CSA joins with other Catholic campus ministries across Alabama and northern Mississippi to host Alabama Awakening every semester. With over 75 students involved, students are able to form friendships with other Catholic college students outside of Samford's campus.

Without its strong leadership, CSA would not be possible on Samford's campus. Father Vu Douglas is committed to the youth and often willing to host extra sacramental events besides Thursday Mass — like Eucharistic Adoration or Confession — on campus. Also, the group is supported by Dr. Bryan Johnson and Dr. Chuck and Betsy Stokes, who host Thursday Home Group in their house every week.

The Sister Servants of the Eternal Word, a religious order housed at Casa Maria in Irondale, Alabama, offers presentations throughout the year. Recently, they hosted one on the Miracle of Fatima in honor of its 100-year anniversary. In her lecture, Sister Rita Marie reminded the college students, "The most important message of Fatima: No matter what, do not be afraid!"



Reign

Written by Jared Skinner

Reign is one of Samford's most popular guest campus ministries. Encouraging students to take a weekly break from their hard work, Reign strives to create an open atmosphere where anyone can worship God for His presence in their lives. The ministry also tries to reach out to those who do not have a relationship with God so that His name can be known.

The group congregates every Tuesday night at 7:30 in the Cooney Field House on campus. Like many of Samford's worship groups, it is a place where students can meet and discuss how God is impacting their lives. Services typically last an hour and feature a relaxed worship service.

This year was a busy year for the organization as they made their mark

on the student body with their continuous active involvement. Besides their normal services, Reign hosted a number of extra events. Hosting Thanksgiving and Christmas parties as well as a hiking trip in Red Mountain, students had numerous chances to bring the Lord to others. Additionally, the group participated in Samford Gives Back 2018.

So, whether it was at their holiday festivities, their day to help give back to the local community or their creation of a group T-shirt, Reign was actively leaving a positive impact on campus. They hope to be able to reach even more people next year with the word of God as they encourage everyone to attend their meetings.



RUF

Written by Natascha Anderson

Every Tuesday night around 8 p.m., students filled Harry's Coffeehouse after completing another day of class. The room's bulb light decorations and contemporary worship playlist drifted out of the speakers to create a comfortable ambiance for students to enjoy. As the music faded and casual chatter began to stop, modern interpretations of traditional hymns echoed throughout Harry's. This was the weekly routine of Samford's on-campus ministry, Reformed University Fellowship, or RUF, this past school year.

Mark Lowry established the first RUF ministry at the University of Southern Mississippi. RUF is the official campus ministry of the Presbyterian Church and has been on Samford's campus for about 10 years.

As of 2014, RUF has expanded to 140 college campuses internationally. RUF strives to establish a community of students where "every person, regardless of background, personal history or conviction, can examine the claims of Reformed Christianity in a non-threatening atmosphere," as stated on the organization's website.

The organization establishes this atmosphere by placing a minister and interns on each campus to facilitate small group Bible studies, develop deeper relationships through one-on-one meetings, lead service opportunities, and provide a spiritual and emotional outlet for students.

Alessandra Sisto, a junior and regular RUF attendee, enjoys the uniqueness of the group established by the students who attend.

"Every Tuesday you can walk into RUF and find people from all walks of campus," said Sisto. "It's a great way to meet people you wouldn't typically run into or talk to throughout your daily routine."

To Sarah Waller, and senior public health major, another unique aspect of RUF is the music selection.

Although RUF prides itself on reformed fellowship, the songs are "traditional and chosen very specifically to share the gospel through music," said Waller.

The current RUF minister at Samford is Walt Davis. Davis grew up in Birmingham and graduated from the University of Mississippi with a

degree in political science and English. After graduation, Davis worked for a non-profit microfinance firm in the Philippines, but he returned to Birmingham to begin seminary at Beeson Divinity School.

RUF has impacted Davis's life by showing him "outstanding grace" from Jesus. He is reminded "how difficult college can be because (students) have to navigate college on their own," said Davis.

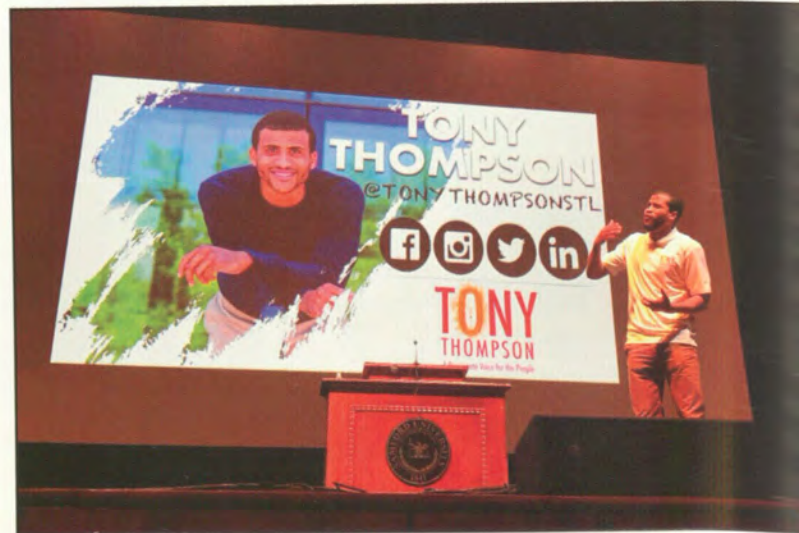
Davis is encouraged to continually seek out the extent a campus ministry can have on students.

"People engage in ministry for more than the person who teaches it," said Davis.





SINCE THE DAY WE HEARD ABOUT YOU,
WE HAVE NOT STOPPED
PRAYING FOR YOU
WE CONTINUALLY ASK GOD TO FILL YOU WITH THE
KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL
through all the wisdom and understanding
THAT THE SPIRIT GIVES,
SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE A LIFE
WORTHY of the LORD
AND PLEASE HIM IN EVERY WAY.
having fruit in every good work, growing in the
KNOWLEDGE OF GOD
Colossians 1:9-10



Office of Spiritual Life

Written by Madison Webster

Photos courtesy of the Office of Spiritual Life

Spiritual Life Assistants, also known as SLAs, work with the Office of Spiritual Life to care for Samford students. SLAs need to be compassionate, respectful and hard-working individuals that serve their peers in prayer and friendship. They live all over campus, thus allowing them the opportunity to build one-on-one relationships with students all over campus. Although the program is relatively new, the Office of Spiritual Life hopes to expand the program by increasing the number and visibility of SLAs on campus. Thirteen students served as SLAs for the 2017-2018 school year.

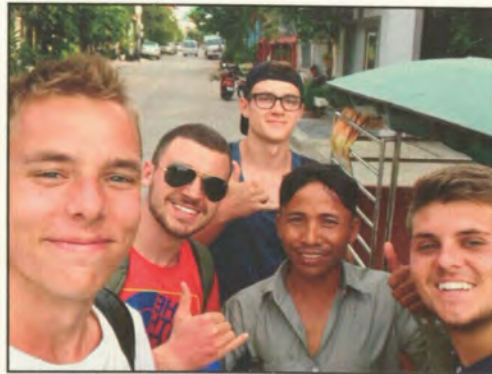
Throughout their year of service, the Spiritual Life Assistants take on a variety of roles. They build communities in their respective parts of campus, provide encouragement and support to students who are experiencing difficult circumstances, and serve as a liaison between students and the Office of Spiritual Life. SLAs welcome, support and care for many students each year.

In addition to being a positive program for the students served by SLAs, the program develops the Spiritual Life Assistants.

"Being an SLA has given me the opportunity to utilize so many practical skills, such as listening attentively to others, considerably helping residents through difficult times with care and engaging with people positively on a daily basis," said sophomore SLA and human development major Ashton Dutton. "This experience is preparing me for my future by teaching me to effectively listen and communicate, to learn to be more selfless, to serve others more and to be consistently present in the lives of the residents."

It is the duty of SLAs to support students in any way they can, including praying for students, speaking with students about struggles and helping students find churches. They are an excellent resource for freshmen and upperclassmen.

"Being an SLA is both challenging and refreshing," said junior SLA and English major Christen Bustillos. "I get put into situations that allow me to grow. This program allows opportunities for the SLAs to reach students in all areas because we are placed in various housing across campus. I am excited to see how this program grows and is able to impact more students."







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Panhellenic

Written by Ally Sorrells

Shortly after the start of the 2017-2018 school year, Panhellenic recruitment began. A week filled with potential new members visiting each sorority house to find their future home was possible with Samford's Panhellenic Council, which facilitated recruitment from start to finish.

Members of the Panhellenic Council valued all the aspects of recruitment. First, the council dedicated hours of hard work to train the Rho Gammas, older sorority members who counsel potential new members through the recruitment process to ensure the process ran as smoothly as possible. The Council also ensured the sororities were up to date on the rules and regulations of recruitment.

"We train and prepare Rho Gammas to guide and counsel the potential new members. We meet frequently with the sorority recruitment chairs to collaborate with and instruct them on new policies," said Vice President of Recruitment, Ann Matthews Hester. "And we meet together as a counsel with chapter delegates to see how we can improve this process."

Through the Council's yearlong process consisting of hours spent planning and facilitating recruitment, the members of Panhellenic formed unique bonds with each other and others involved in the recruitment process. As a result, the members' experience on Panhellenic Council was an experience they will never forget.

"I enjoyed making relationships with people I may have never encountered otherwise. There are so many amazing women in every sorority, and I love getting to spend time walking side-by-side with them in this crazy process," said Hester.

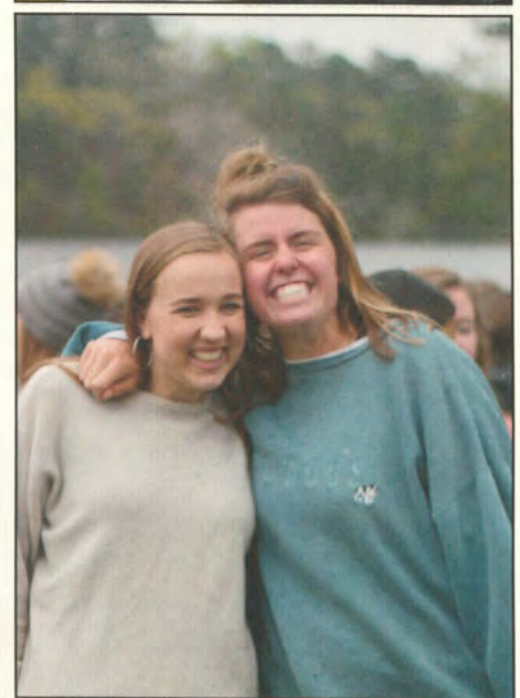
In addition to the lasting friendships formed, members of the Panhellenic Council experienced recruitment from a different perspective. Rather than participating as a potential new members or as currently affiliated members of a sorority, Council members disaffiliated from their sororities to ensure objective relationships were formed between

the potential new members and affiliated members of each sorority. "By taking myself and my affiliation out of the picture, I got to appreciate the strength of each chapter and what makes them unique," said Hester. "I could relate to the PNMS, understand their fears and envision how they are about to join something bigger and grow tremendously."

As members of the Panhellenic Council oversaw recruitment from start to finish, their experience was heavy with hard decisions but made easier with various benefits, such as forming new friendships and gaining a whole new perspective on recruitment.

"Panhellenic widened my perspective and made me understand that there is so much more to this process," said Hester.





Recruitment

Written by Ally Sorrells



For both fraternities and sororities, Recruitment Week was filled with underclassmen searching for their home in Samford's Greek Life. A week filled with joy and hardships, each potential new member awaited the sweet relief of Bid Day.

As underclassmen went through Recruitment Week, they visited each sorority or fraternity to learn about the organizations and converse with some of their members. Each night brought on a new set of hardships as the students were forced to balance school work and socializing in this exciting time of their college career.



In addition to balancing school work with recruitment activities, many underclassmen faced the challenge of being dropped by some of their top organizations. Although hard in the moment, many students look back and realize the decision was for they best.

Despite the hardships of Recruitment Week, a lot of students who went through the recruitment thoroughly enjoyed Recruitment Weeks. From interacting with affiliated members to meeting new people from their own class, Recruitment Week served as the perfect time to branch out and form new friendships in the beginning of the school year. For many students, the relationships formed during Recruitment Week became some

of their most steadfast relationships throughout the year.

Despite the mixed emotions that accompany Recruitment Week, the pressure to find the perfect fit in Samford's Greek Life was relieved on Bid Day. Students celebrated with their organizations and settled into a routine of balancing their new life in Samford's Greek community with their established academic life as they faced the rest of the 2017-2018 school year.



Bid Day

Written by Katie DiQuollo

Recruitment welcomes freshmen to Samford's Greek community and allows members to share with Potential New Members, giving them the opportunity to find their home throughout the week and be welcomed in on Bid Day, which closes the Panhellenic Recruitment process.

For the first time at Samford, the sisters of Delta Delta Delta joined the five other chapters on the Quad for what may have been the loudest Sunday on Samford's campus. Members from Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha dressed in themed outfits, raised their banners high, painted their faces and flew balloons in eagerness to welcome new sisters into their chapter.

Alpha Omicron Pi welcomed their new sisters to the jungle and dressed up as lions, tigers and bears. Alpha Delta Pi threw a tropical spin on the day with their luau. The sisters of Chi Omega camped out, while the members of Delta Delta Delta celebrated their first Bid Day with an under the sea theme. Phi Mu decked out in pink to ring in a Happy Mu Year, and Zeta Tau Alpha went under cover to get their girls.

"The anticipation of finding out who your new sisters will be to seeing the excitement on their faces as they run home to you on the quad makes all the effort put into recruitment so worth it," said junior journalism major and Delta Delta Delta member Jenny Lynn Davis.

As the members marched onto the Quad, chanting and yelling for their new sisters to run out, the Potential New Members anxiously awaited their Bid Cards. While waiting, their Rho Gammas revealed which sorority they belonged to and counted down the moments before the Potential New Members opened their Bid Cards.

"Bid Day was a cacophony of excitement. There was so much excitement and so much happening all at once," said freshman pre-business major and new member of Zeta Tau Alpha's sisterhood Kristin Brill. "I instantly felt so welcomed into my sisterhood and knew that would be only the beginning to all the happy memories to come."

After celebrating on the Quad, the new and old members returned to their respective sorority houses and continued the celebration. Pledge class pictures were taken, the beginning of the extensive t-shirt collection began and conversations that led to deep friendships bubbled up all throughout the houses.





Alpha Delta Pi

Written by Ashlee Fincher



Since its establishment in 1851, Alpha Delta Pi has been committed to sisterhood, ethics, high academic standards and social responsibility. Samford's Kappa Chapter believes that a strong sense of sisterhood and commitment to one another transforms their chapter from a group of girls into a close-knit group of women who exemplify a line in their motto: "We live for each other."

Abbie Kiser decided to spend the spring semester in Costa Rica after visiting with some of her sorority sisters. As Kiser began fundraising for her trip, some of the first orders for her painted journals and Bibles were from her sorority sisters.

"(I am) grateful for the sisterhood of ADPI and how (the) sisters have encouraged me, prayed for me and financially gave to my mission trip," said Kiser.



During the past school year, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi pursued sisterhood by providing constant sources of encouragement during good and bad times through "being genuine, selfless, supportive and loving," as sophomore law, politics and society major Eliza Bishop defined sisterhood.

This fall, Sisterhood Chair junior Kameron Buehler launched "Diamond Dates" to create a stronger cross-class sisterhood bond within the sorority. The dates provided sisters in the four pledge classes the opportunity to meet one another and strengthen their relationship with younger and older members of their sorority.

This year, some of the most common ways the sisters fostered a sense of sisterhood included sending notes to each other gathering for Bible studies and attending sisterhood events in the house.

As it has for many of the chapter's advisers, the Kappa Chapter hopes the sisterhood formed at Samford will continue for a lifetime beyond the years spent together on Samford's campus.

Furthermore, Alpha Delta Pi lived out their motto this year through the members' support of sister's mission work. Sophomore marketing major



Alpha Delta Pi

Written By Ashley Hinson

Photos courtesy of Alpha Delta Pi

Samford University's Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi hosted its inaugural Feed the Need philanthropy event on Oct. 28, 2017. This event raised over \$72,000 for the chapter's philanthropies and allowed over 150 members and their fathers to pack more than 1,500 meals, which were distributed in Birmingham and sent to Haiti.

In the past, the sorority hosted a golf tournament to raise money and awareness for its philanthropy, the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama. However, the 2017 Philanthropy Chair, Amy Hancock, decided to change the tradition, which had not yielded great results in the past.

"I found that many members were frustrated with our old fall event, and I wanted to recreate an event that could allow the members to be involved and feel like they were contributing to the community," said Hancock.

For the event, Alpha Delta Pi partnered with local fundraising company The Champion Group.

For the Kappa Chapter, the success of the event meant writing a check for more than \$40,000 to the RMHCA.

"We are truly humbled by the efforts of these women and offer our heartfelt thanks," said RMHCA after the event.

Additionally, the chapter sent a check for over \$30,000 to the Alpha Delta Pi Foundation. The Foundation funds a variety of things including education, sexual assault prevention and historic preservation for the sorority.

"This event allowed me to not only raise funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama, but it also provided me with an opportunity to give globally and locally through the meal packaging," said junior communication sciences and disorders major MaryBeth Wagner, Kappa's 2018 Philanthropy Chair.

By raising money to pack and send meals to needy children and families around the world, the Kappa Chapter raised money and awareness for RMHCA, which would not be able to serve, house and provide for pediatric hospital patients without the donations and service of groups like Samford's Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi.



Philanthropy



Alpha Omicron Pi

Written by Olivia Moses

Samford University's Rho Delta Chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi was excited to expand their family as they welcomed home 63 new members on Bid Day.

Throughout the year, the sisterhood committee held various events that fostered community and encouraged involvement in the chapter. These sisterhood events included sisterhood chapters, which were chapters dedicated for the sisters to bond over games or dinner catered by Taco Mama.

"During the last two years, I have made my best friends, been encouraged daily and found a loving home away from home," said the Vice President of Recruitment, Katherine Clarke. "Having sisters you can lean on throughout the hard times and have fun with in the good times is truly what sisterhood means to me. I know I couldn't do college without my AOII sisters."

This year, the members represented their motto, "Inspire Ambition," by encouraging their sisters to exhibit their God-given talents. Their talents were spread throughout campus as members of the Student Government Association, dancers for Grace Dance Ministries, leaders of Home Groups, members of the Samford Recruitment Team and as student athletes.

"In AOII, there is such a spectrum of personalities that everyone is able to find a place where they belong," said AOII President Sarah

McFarland.

Although the Chapter contains a diverse group of interest and passions, the sisters ensured to spend time with each other and make each other feel at home throughout the year.

"AOII has been such a blessing in my life," said freshman elementary education major Amber Cruz. "From getting to know older girls to going to eat Heavenly Donuts late at night, my sisters make me feel loved and accepted."

Through their encouragement and time spent together, the sisters helped each other become the best version of themselves during the trials they may have faced throughout the school year.



Photo by Page Seceast



Photo by Lilla Bea Granger



Photo by Lilla Bea Granger



Photo by Page Seceast





Photo by Page Seceast



Photo by Page Seceast



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Photo by Page Seceast

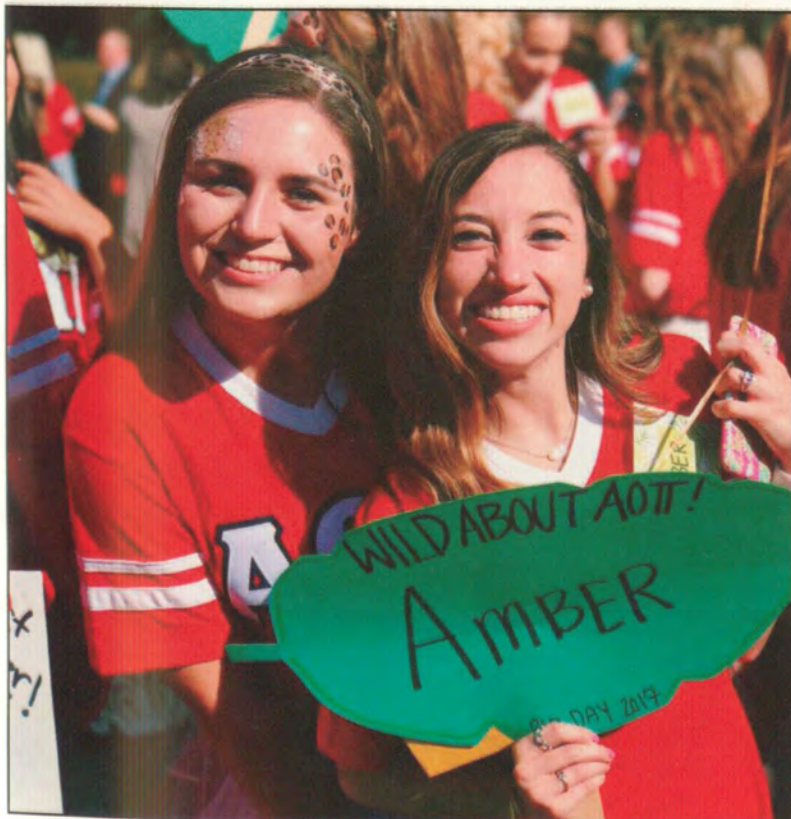


Photo by Page Seceast

Alpha Omicron Pi

Written by Becca Weatherford

Samford University's Rho Delta chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi is one of the hundreds of chapters in the nation that supports the Arthritis Foundation. While the Arthritis Foundation was created to serve all who suffer from the condition, the sorority focuses on those affected by juvenile arthritis.

To show its support for the Arthritis Foundation, Alpha Omicron Pi hosted several events throughout the past school year. In the fall, they hosted their annual AOII Goes Blue Week, as blue is the color of the arthritis awareness ribbon. They also hosted Smoke Out Arthritis, a concert and barbeque, to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation.

In the spring, Alpha Omicron Pi Rho Delta partnered with the Birmingham Barons to put on their largest event: Strike Out Arthritis. For this annual event, the chapter sold tickets to a Baron's baseball game to raise money for their philanthropy. In addition to selling tickets, the sisters invited families impacted by the Arthritis Foundation to attend the game.

"Strike Out is a fun way for us to not only raise money for the Arthritis Foundation, but to also spend time with our sisters while exploring the city around us," said junior nursing Elizabeth Rochester.

Before joining the chapter, Alpha's Omicron Pi's Philanthropy Chair, Kathleen Christian, was unaware of the severe consequence of juvenile arthritis.

"I think that's one of the reasons why our philanthropy and our events are so important," said Christian. People need to

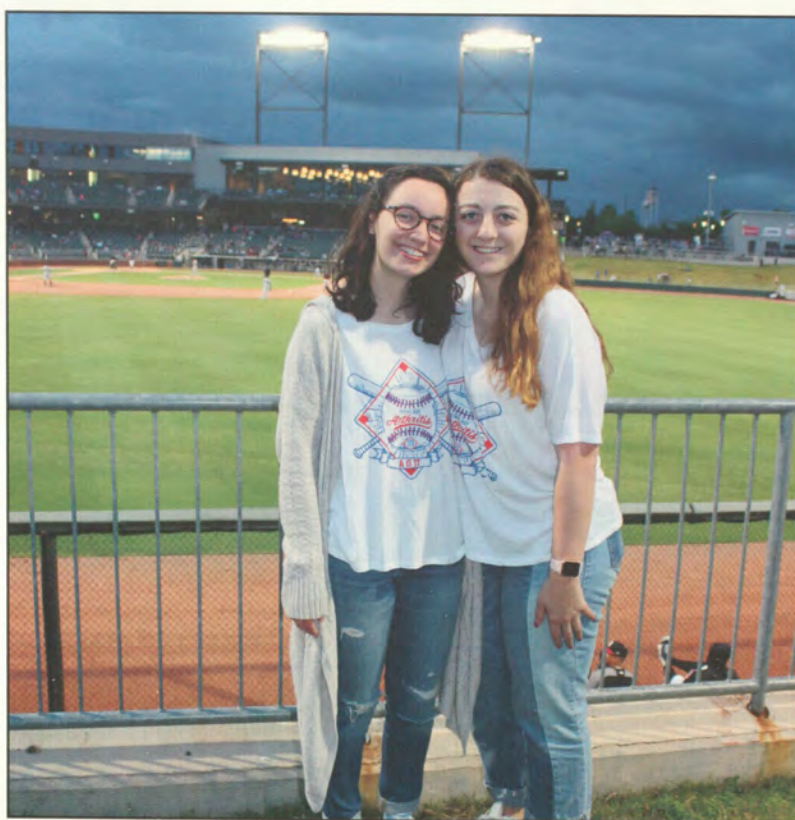
be aware that arthritis is a very harsh reality for people of all ages."

While most of the sisters are not affected by juvenile arthritis, Alpha Omicron Pi strives to place its philanthropy at the heart of its chapter every year. From planning to fundraising, the sisters consistently involved themselves in aiding the Arthritis Foundation this year.

The chapter worked closely alongside the foundation to create a positive impact in the lives of children impacted by the dilapidating condition.



Philanthropy





Chi Omega

Written by Catherine Payne

The women who make up Chi Omega embody the word sisterhood because of their acceptance, care and love for one another. Each member can attest that the moment she became a Chi Omega, she was connected to a group of women who form a family and take time to get to know and support each other. Sisterhood is created in Chi Omega because of the programming that facilitates members to come together and form friendships.

"In Chi Omega, we are constantly surrounded by women that inspire one another to give more and to aim higher," said Chi Omega President and junior sports medicine major, Addy Adkisson. "I have never met a more selfless, thoughtful group of ladies. Over and over again I am encouraged and renewed by sisters that double as best friends, mentors and constant supporters."

After getting a wonderful new pledge class in the fall, the Zeta Zeta Chapter hosted a Skate Night for the entire chapter. Members of all years came decked out in denim to celebrate and get to know the new members. This allowed for girls to bond with each other as they created memories with their new and old sisters.

Chi Omega also hosted a Mom's Weekend for members and their mothers. During Mom's Weekend, there were dinners in the chapter room of the Chi Omega house, activities, such as a painting class, and breakfasts. Mom's Weekend was a special time because members got to show their moms around Samford and Birmingham, while introducing their moms to some of their best friends.

Although one member cannot be best friends with everyone, there is a general sense of friendship and interest among sisters in Chi Omega.

"From leadership opportunities to dance parties to living next door to your best friends, Chi Omega is a place where you make the sweetest, most fun and kindest of friends," said senior public administration and creative writing double major Madeline Perkins.

Being a member of Chi Omega enhances years spent at college because of the friendships, programming and community amongst the members. Chi Omega is special because of the sisterhood that is formed making members feel known, cared for and loved.



Chi Omega Philanthropy

Written By Abby Zajac

On Wednesday, April 4, Samford's Chi Omega Zeta Zeta chapter hosted its first Swishes for Wishes event in Seibert Gymnasium. Over 20 teams participated in the 3-on-3 basketball tournament benefiting Make-A-Wish Alabama.

Make A Wish is a non-profit organization that grants wishes of children diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition under the age of 18 in the United States of America. The Chi Omega chapter at Samford University has the opportunity to partner with the Alabama chapter of Make-A-Wish.

Chi Omega's President, Addy Adkisson, said, "This was Chi O's first year to do Swishes for Wishes, and we were really looking for something that would reach out to the entire Samford community. The tournament was all that we imagined and more, and we hope to make it an annual tradition that Zeta Zeta can use to benefit our philanthropy and bring Samford students together."

The winner of the tournament for both men and women's bracket received \$250 and an event T-shirt for each player on their team. Thanks to Samford's Campus Recreation, there was very little cost for the event, and the Chi Omega chapter was able raise over \$5,000 for Make A Wish Alabama. Some of the players from Samford men's basketball team helped Chi Omega facilitate this event and were referees from the first game until the championship.

Mckenzie Simmler, a member of Chi Omega and a junior Communication Sciences and Disorders major, said "I took going to the beach and going to Disney World for granted my entire life growing up

in Florida, but now I know for these kids that would just mean the world to them. It makes a bad time a little better and gives some hope to the kids and their families. It's one day or one week, a few hours, of 'normalness' again and smiles and laughter instead of doctors visits, hospital walls, and chemo. That's why I love Chi O's philanthropy so much."





Delta Delta Delta

Written by Mary Clark Herrod

Chartered at Samford in November of 2016, the Epsilon Xi chapter of Delta Delta Delta Fraternity has grown to thrive. The founding members of Samford's Delta Delta Delta were excited to accept new women into their sisterhood after completing their first formal recruitment in the fall of 2017.

"Being a founding member of Tri Delta Epsilon Xi has been such an incredible experience," said junior communication studies major Emily Clark. "I have loved watching our chapter grow and sharing our special sisterhood with so many new women over the past year. From formals to bid day to philanthropy events, my Tri Delta memories and friendships will always be some of my favorites."

The sisters of the Epsilon Xi Chapter strengthened their sisterhood by moving into their new house at the beginning of the fall semester. Although they moved in at the end of August, the house was officially dedicated in November. Representatives from Delta Delta Delta and Samford attended the dedication event, including Samford's President, Dr. Andrew Westmoreland.

"By living in the Tri Delta house, I was able to grow friendships within my soror-

ity," said sophomore education major Anna Montanari. "After living in Evergreen my freshman year, it was a new experience for me to know everyone who lives on my hall. I have created so many memories simply by living in the house, and I cannot wait to make more next year."

Throughout the year, the Chapter hosted several events, including their first semi-formal, their philanthropy event, a campus-wide dodgeball tournament and sisterhood events throughout the year. The Chapter also participated in many on-campus events and competitions, such as Greek Draft and Step Sing.

Through Bible studies, sisterhood events, philanthropic service and leadership activities, the Epsilon Xi Chapter provided its members with a plethora of opportunities to grow together as a chapter and as individuals.

"Being in Tri Delta means that I am surrounded by women who love me exactly as I am but who also believe in me and encourage me to continue working to be the best version of myself," said sophomore pre-business major Gracie Morrison.





Delta Delta Delta Philanthropy

Written by Dori Bullard

On Oct. 12, 2017, the sisters of the Epsilon Xi Chapter of Delta Delta Delta held their first Let's Tacobout St. Jude philanthropy event. In addition to raising money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the sisters raised awareness on campus for St. Jude and their work.

The event was in Ben Brown Plaza, and Taco Mama catered a buffet-style taco line. It took a lot of work from the ladies of Delta Delta Delta to make the evening a success. The sisters were involved in many aspects, including selling tickets, helping to serve the food, passing out flyers and talking to people about St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Current Vice President of Community Relations and sophomore finance major, Gracie Morrison, saw two ways the event was successful: "First, we raised a substantial amount of money, and second we made the campus more aware of the organization that we work hard to fundraise for."

The event raised \$1,925, and the chapter donated 100 percent directly to their philanthropy. To the members of the Chapter, the event was about more than just the amount of money they raised. They also had the opportunity to educate the student body about St. Jude and the hospital's mission. St. Jude is committed to finding cures to save children and ensure families never have to pay a bill for treatment, travel, housing or food.

Participants of Let's Tacobout St. Jude could purchase a ticket directly from a member of Delta Delta Delta or at a table in Ben Brown Plaza the week leading up to the event. In addition to selling tickets, the sisters provided hats students could decorate.

"I feel like when everyone looks back at their childhood, birthdays are a highlight. By decorating hats, we hoped people would associate their donation with helping to save children's lives and make sure they get their chance to have those highlights too," explained former Vice President of Community Relations and sophomore biology major, Kayla McCormick.

Nationally Delta Delta Delta has an event called Delta House of Pancakes, or DHOP, which is very similar to Let's Tacobout St. Jude. The Epsilon Xi Chapter was able to put their own spin on this fundraiser and plans to continue the event in the future to raise money and awareness for St. Jude.





Phi Mu

Written by Anne Davis Parks

Samford University's Alpha Gamma Chapter of Phi Mu filled another year with sisterhood and philanthropic endeavors. Kicking off the fall semester by wishing new members a "Happy Mu Year" on Bid Day, the chapter continued the year with celebration and excitement.

In addition to welcoming new members in the fall, the sisters enjoyed their first BonnaMu, football tailgates and a semi-formal. To begin the spring semester, the sisters put on their Step Sing show, "Until They're Home."

They continued to serve their philanthropy, Children's Miracle Network Hospital, with the Chapter's annual car wash. From spring formal to sisterhood events, the Alpha Gamma Chapter enjoyed spending time together.

Phi Mu is more than just a collection of events and obligations. It is a place where young women have the opportunity to grow in themselves and find a place on Samford's campus.

"Phi Mu has given me a place to love, to lead and to grow," said Chapter President and junior human development family science major, Alex Goode. "I came to Phi Mu because the older girls in this house were the girls I wanted to be like when I left Samford, and my hope is that through this sisterhood, I get to be that role model for the younger girls in our chapter. I love Phi Mu because of the Biblically-based values it seeks to instill in its members and for

providing a diverse group of girls for me to be connected with."

Throughout the school year, the sisters strived to connect with each other. They did so by wholeheartedly launching into philanthropy events, which allowed them to bond with one another as they helped the community together. They also spent countless hours together in the house, attending chapter each week and taking part in various sisterhood events. They developed relationships with each other that extend past friendship and into sisterhood.

"The sisterhood I have found in Phi Mu is one I have dreamed about ever since I was a little girl listening to my mom talk about her sorority life," said sophomore interior design major Kalyn Lake. "It's through Phi Mu that I have found sisters that will laugh at stupid Vines with me, drive me to Target when my car is out of gas, put up with me when I want to listen to 'Africa' by Toto for the 1000th time and be a shoulder to cry on when my days don't go right. I am so thankful for this sisterhood, all the memories have made so far and my appreciation for all things quatrafoiled."

Through philanthropy and sisterhood, Alpha Gamma has grown as a chapter. Relationships between sisters, with other Greek organizations and with the Samford community continued to grow, and Phi Mu looks over the past year with satisfaction and a sense eagerness for next year.





Phi Mu Philanthropy

Written by Becca Weatherford

The slogan “for the kids” has a special meaning for the Alpha Gamma chapter of Phi Mu at Samford University. The sorority supports Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, or CMNH, a non-profit organization that relies on donations to help fund the healthcare of children with a variety of diseases.

In past years, Phi Mu held the 5K Children’s Miracle Network Run and a car wash as their philanthropy events. However, the chapter wanted to support Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals in a different way this year. In the fall, they hosted BonnaMu, which was an event open to Samford students and Birmingham residents. The event featured a concert, local food trucks and a loving community to support a great cause.

“It was the first year we did this event, and it was so successful! We raised \$10,567 for the kids,” said the Philanthropy Chair of the Alpha Gamma Chapter, junior nursing major Katie Rowe. “Our philanthropy is the core of our chapter, and it always brings us together because we share the same love and passion for these incredible hospitals that help families all around the country!”

At BonnaMu, the sorority hosted children discharged from the Alabama Children’s Miracle Network Hospital due to the continued support of CMNH and their partners, such as Phi Mu. The children spoke about the necessity of continued support for an organization that is more than a hospital.

“The entire chapter rallies behind CMNH. Everyone participates in philanthropy events – not just the philanthropy committee – because everyone is dedicated to helping these children,” said sophomore biology pre-med major Elizabeth Harris.

For the past few years, Alpha Gamma ranked as the top Phi Mu chapter in the state for its fundraising efforts for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. The chapter’s continued success results from their dedication to helping as many children and families as they can by hosting their fundraisers for CMNH.





Zeta Tau Alpha

Written by Camille Brown

Zeta Tau Alpha's Delta Psi Chapter at Samford University continues to express a genuine and intentional spirit for sisterhood and service. In devotion "to the right, the good, and the true," as stated in their creed, the sisters of the Delta Psi Chapter have committed themselves to upholding the well-being of the students and community of Samford University and the surrounding Birmingham area.

Their philanthropy, Breast Cancer Education and Awareness, which partners with the National Football League, Bright Pink and the American Cancer Society, is held close to many sister's hearts. In support of their philanthropy, the Delta Psi Chapter held events including Mr. Samford, a Montgomery breast cancer survivors walk, a Pink Out football game, Spike It to Cure It volleyball game and organizing chemo basket donations for Birmingham hospitals.

Whether or not a sister of the Delta Psi Chapter has dealt with this horrible disease head on, this sisterhood empathizes with those who have. The sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha have met and served many women who have endured the fight against breast cancer, which has shown them that it is important these fighting women do not battle cancer alone. Through their time with women impacted by breast cancer, the sisters of the Delta Psi Chapter have truly learned the unconditional nature of sisterly love.

"Joining Zeta Tau Alpha has changed the way I view family," said freshman business major Cassidy Goble. "My biological sister is a Zeta at a different chapter, yet I am connected to her through the rituals we share hundreds of miles apart. We are both surrounded by loyal, joyful and kind hearted girls, and I have the opportunity to see Zeta exemplified within my chapter in ways that are unique yet similar to hers. As an incoming freshman lost without her sister, gaining a couple hundred was and continues to be the greatest blessing."

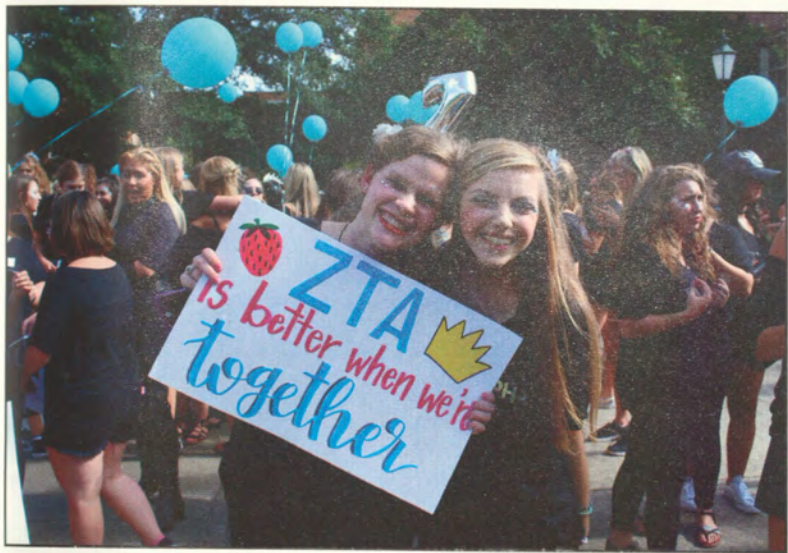
The sisters of the Delta Psi Chapter also value the diversity found amongst their sorority. Through valuing their diversity, the sisters allow each other to bring their unique God-given gifts into the sisterhood.

"I have grown immensely since I have been in Zeta. Zeta is a place where I feel confident and where I can be my complete self, said junior elementary education Major Anne Chason Wachter. "Every girl is so

unique, and that is the true heart of Zeta Tau Alpha. This sisterhood has taught me how to get out of my comfort zone and has truly shown me how to love others with my whole heart!"

The Delta Psi Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha has been blessed with a genuine community of sisters. The sisters hope to continue to love on each other and serve with a unified heart for Breast Cancer Education and Awareness





Zeta Tau Alpha

Written by Camille Brown

Samford University's Delta Psi Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha continues to serve both the Samford and Birmingham community through promoting and raising funds for their philanthropy, Breast Cancer Education and Awareness. Through various fundraising efforts, Delta Psi has raised over \$16,000 for the Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation, which donates funds to organizations that dedicate themselves to supporting Breast Cancer Awareness and Education, including the American Cancer Society, Bright Pink and the National Football League.

With the help of Haley Schneider, sophomore elementary/special education/collaborative education major and Delta Psi's Think Pink Chair, the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha organized the first Pink Out Game on Sept. 30, 2017. The sorority used this as a kick-off event for October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, by turning Samford's "Red Sea" into a flood of pink. Pink shakers and ribbons filled Seibert Stadium in support of Breast Cancer Education and Awareness. Football players, coaches, cheerleaders, and fans were encouraged to wear pink and donate money to the Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation.

After the first quarter, eight sisters stood on the field. Seven sisters wore white, and one sister wore pink. The sister in pink represented the one out of every eight women who is affected by breast cancer.

"I was honored to be able to stand and raise awareness about the one in eight women's statistic," said the sister in pink and junior communication studies major, Taylor Gatlin. "My grandmother is a breast cancer survivor, so educating others is something that is very important to me. I'm so thankful for all of the opportunities that Zeta Tau Alpha

has provided me with to help raise support for a cause that's so dear to my heart."

The Pink Out Game is not the only way Zeta Tau Alpha supported breast cancer research during the 2017-2018 school year. Another event Delta Psi participated in was a breast cancer service walk in Montgomery. The event was led by the sorority's Service Chair and sophomore psychology major, Emily Schneider.

"It was so inspiring to see the impact our hours of volunteering could have on so many lives affected by breast cancer and to see how the stories of strength could resonate with members of our own chapter," said Schneider.

The sisters also enjoy serving the Birmingham community. Zeta Tau Alpha participated in Samford Gives Back, a Hurricane Harvey Relief Fundraiser, a Birmingham School Supplies Drive, a fundraiser donating to CHIPS Center and filling Chemo Baskets for patients at a local Birmingham hospital. They also partnered with other organizations and raised over \$800 during the first semester for other Greek Organization's philanthropy events.

The Delta Psi chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha is thankful for Samford and Panhellenic for their continued support to make their philanthropic events possible. As stated in their creed, the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha hope to continue "to think in terms of all mankind and (their) service in the world."



Philanthropy



Interfraternity Council

Written by Abby Zajac

The interfraternity council at Samford University is made up of leaders from the five different fraternities on campus. Together they make up a council that leads the male students involved in greek life on campus. During the spring semester each year, new representatives join IFC under the guidance of the Director of Greek Life, Julie Fletcher, and the new Assistant Director of Greek Life, Luis Aponte.

The most recent officers selected include: Kyle Church, a member of Alpha Tau Omega serving as President; Jake Massey, a member of Sigma Chi serving as Vice President of Scholarship; Marcus Witzel, a member of Alpha Tau Omega serving as Vice President of Programming; Corey Kalish, a member of Sigma Chi serving as Vice President of Public Relations; Taylor McCarley, a member of Pi Kappa Phi serving as Vice President of Membership; and Joel Garner, serving as Vice President of Administration.

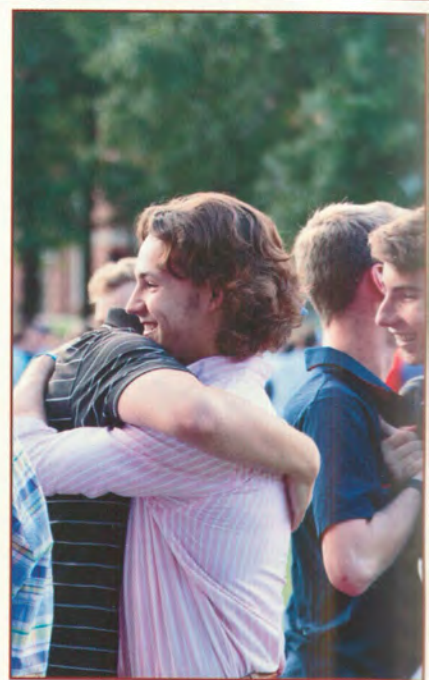
Together this team of individuals oversees events and gatherings that involve all of greek life on campus, including hosting a greek life speaker each semester, tailgates during football season, mixers among greek organizations, leadership training, workshops and conferences, and formal recruitment during the fall semester. They show their support to all greek organizations for the efforts in community service, involvement on campus and fundraisers for their philanthropies as well as participation in Step Sing, athletics and scholarship.

Similar to Panhellenic Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council, IFC encourages greek unity and tries to enhance friendships across organizations. Students enjoy events throughout the school year hosted by all three governing councils, such as the Greek Draft,

where members from all greek organizations participate in relay races to "draft" an athletics team for their upcoming season, and the Greek Trick or Treat, where members from all greek organizations dress up and pass out candy to children of faculty and staff. The three greek governing councils love to partner with other areas on campus like Campus Recreation, faculty and staff, and the Office for Student Leadership and Involvement. Through these partnerships, students are given more of an opportunity to get involved in the Samford community.







Alpha Tau Omega

Written by Dalton Roach

Established four years ago, Alpha Tau Omega is the youngest fraternity on Samford University's campus. The purpose behind the foundation of the Kappa Rho Chapter was to make a fraternity that held men to a standard of higher living, both personally and in their faith.

The brothers are close to one another and see each other with love and respect, which, perhaps, is the most valued aspect of life in the chapter. Although the brothers of the Kappa Rho Chapter have many different majors, backgrounds and cultural differences, they respect one another as brothers. While there may be surface level differences between members, they have more things in common than not. In addition, wanting the best for the Chapter allows them to set their differences aside for the betterment of the chapter.

"I felt God calling me to be a part of this group of men from the second night of rush. It immediately gave me a set of friends, but more importantly it gave me a set of brothers," said senior marketing and entrepreneurship major Will Smith. "I don't use that term lightly either. I don't mean brothers as in 'very close friends,' I mean men that I consider as close as my family. Guys to support me, keep me account-

able, hold me up and push me to be the best man that I can be."

The respect that comes from Kappa Rho is also shown amongst the brothers' interactions with other individuals on Samford's Campus. This year, the brothers organized events on campus to promote campus unity and safety. One of the primary aspects of Alpha Tau Omega is to care for both their members and the community.

"ATO has served to grow me as a leader, develop my spiritual walk and given me an avenue to make a difference in my campus and my community," said Alpha Tau Omega President and junior religion major, Sam Fink.

In addition, the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega take their studies seriously and hold the honor of the highest male GPA on campus. It is important to members that they hold themselves to a high standard of learning because know that academics are the primary reason they are at Samford.

Wearing the Alpha Tau Omega letters means you have the support of brothers who have seen and done incredible things and are

willing to drop anything for one another. The brothers of the Kappa Rho Chapter are proud to be apart of a respectful fraternity, which they know will support them through all their endeavors.



Lambda Chi Alpha

Written by Preston Milton

It's been one heck of a year. A swan was born. The brothers all got to know Keevs, Elijah fell in love and they learned about Dana. They laughed, they cried and they studied a lot. Lambda Chi Alpha welcomed some great guys and said goodbye to some great ones too.

The chapter changes every year. New guys are brought in and old guys leave, bringing in and leaving the ideas that have shaped and molded the spirit of this chapter since its inception in 1919.

Over the years the chapter has been big and small, grown and shrunk, but all the while staying true to the seven core values

that have defined the men of this proud organization.

It's been a wild ride. The brothers have dealt with hardships, things haven't always gone our way, but it doesn't matter to us.

To the seniors, we thank you for all the work you have put into Lambda Chi Alpha. To the freshmen, buckle up, you've got your work cut out for you. To the alumni, we thank you and will always strive to respect the legacy that you've left. To the actives, keep up the fight. To future Lambda Chis that we haven't met yet, we look forwards to welcoming you into our brotherhood.







Photo by Preston Little



Photo by Chase Cochran



Photo by Chase Cochran



Photo by Chase Cochran



Photo by Preston Little



Photo by Preston Little



Photo by Chase Cochran

Pi Kappa Phi

Written by Ian Pope

Having been on Samford's campus since 1925, the Alpha Eta Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi celebrated its 23rd year on campus during the 2017-2018 school year. The year was filled with members being heavily involved in various activities within their chapter, around campus and in the community.

Beginning their year with recruitment in September, the fraternity welcomed 27 new members, who were eager for involvement within their chapter.

In October, Pi Kappa Phi hosted War of the Roses, their annual philanthropy week, to raise money for their national philanthropy, The Ability Experience. This organization aims to help people with disabilities in a variety of ways, such as building more accessible buildings to hosting camps for children. The philanthropy week kicked off with a car wash at the Pi Kappa Phi house. Throughout the week, buckets were set up for sororities and independent ladies to participate in Penny Wars. The week capped off with a benefit concert where students sang and showed their talents.

With some of the money made that week, Pi Kappa Phi wanted to help Samford's efforts to improve disability accessibility across campus.

"I reached out to Disability Services and they directed me to Campus Rec because they had a need for some handicap accessible equipment, and I was excited to fill that need," said Philanthropy Chair and junior political science major, George Keller.

Alpha Eta's fall semester ended with their semi-formal at the Avon Theatre in downtown Birmingham.

Coming back to campus in January, 75 brothers dedicated their time to Samford's greatest tradition: Step Sing. With their theme, "Crooks," the brothers told the story of a group of young shepherds who went on an adventure to bring a missing sheep home. The story was filled with the brothers singing and performing intense choreography to crowd favorite songs, such as "Seven Bridges Road," "I Still Haven't Found What I am Looking For," and "I'll Make a Man out of You."

"This show was one of the most fun we've done in the past few years. We had great buy-in from everyone, and all the guys, committee and directors really worked hard to make it into something special," said Pi Kappa Phi's 2018 Step Sing Director and junior finance and economics major, Caleb Strawn. "I think when we announced that we were going to be shepherds we caught some people off guard but the show ended up being something that each one of us is really proud of, which is a win in my book."

The rest of the spring semester was filled with brotherhood events, formals and mixers. Intramurals was an integral part of their year, and Alpha Eta took home the Intramural Award. Further, Pi Kappa Phi was honored to receive the Campus Involvement Award at the annual Greek Awards. Pi Kappa Phi's last formal was a time to honor their graduating seniors, with Nelson Park being named Brother of the Year. 2017-2018 was a packed year for Pi Kappa Phi, and Alpha Eta is excited to be busy and just as fruitful next year.

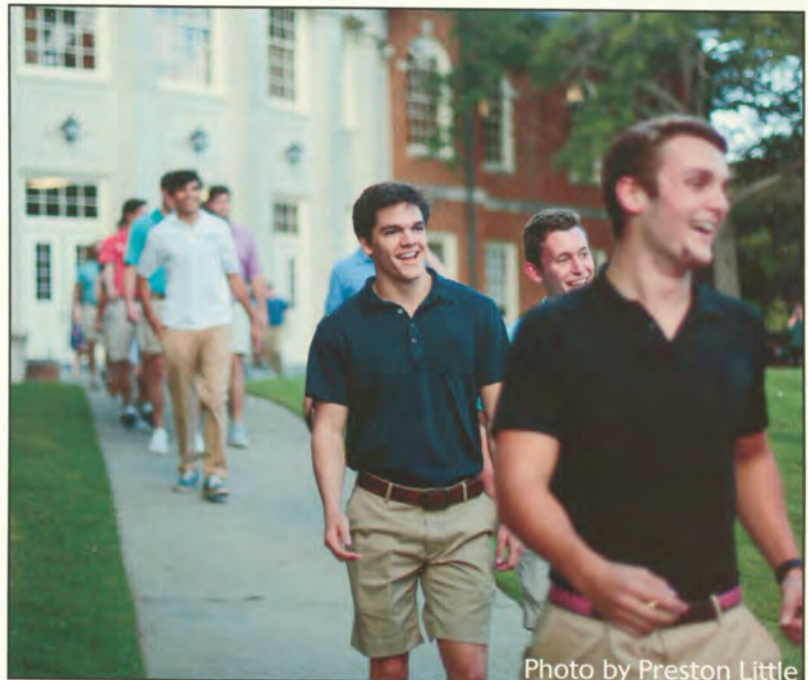


Photo by Preston Little



Photo by Preston Little

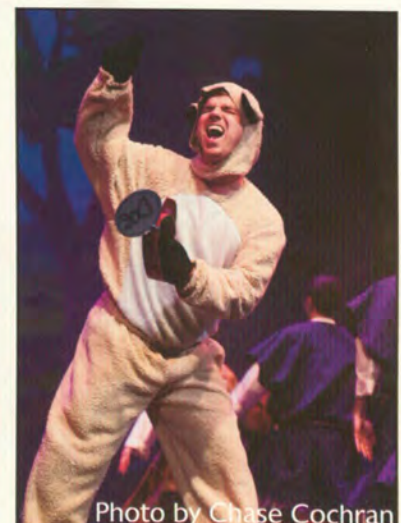


Photo by Chase Cochran



Photo by: Chase Cochran



Photo by: Chase Cochran



Sigma Chi

Written by Remy Garfield

Friendship, justice and learning. These three pillars of Sigma Chi enlightenment continued to guide Samford University's Pi Chapter for yet another successful academic year. In November, the Pi Chapter initiated 26 new members into the Alpha Psi pledge class. With an overall GPA average of 3.25, the Alpha Psi class held the highest GPA average among fraternities.

A new executive committee took office at the start of the spring semester. The executive committee met over Christmas break to plan for the coming year as well as appoint other committee positions.

"Not only myself, but the rest of the Pi Chapter's Executive committee feels as if we are in the best position our chapter has been in for years," said the Pi Chapter's President and junior accounting major, Jojo Ellis. "This school year has not only been a lot of fun, but we have accomplished much, from our Derby Days philanthropy week to our Step Sing performance."

Relations with the Pi Chapter and Samford University administration also continue to prosper.

"We wouldn't be where we are without the leadership of Samford and without the council of the alumni who have come before us," said Ellis.

At the Samford University Greek Life Awards, the Pi Chapter received numerous awards, including Outstanding Values, Outstanding Scholarship, Outstanding Service, Outstanding Public Relations and Outstanding Alumni Relations.

Brothers of the Pi Chapter presented their show, "Sent It," as mailmen in this year's Step Sing. Hampton Dortch, a sophomore finance major, Grayson Hill, a sophomore marketing major, and Jojo Ellis served as the chapter's Step Sing directors. The brothers danced and sang to a compilation of songs, including "YMCA," "Sharp Dressed Man" and "You Raise Me Up." They took home the Participants' Choice Award for Best Choreography.

The chapter also had a busy social calendar for the year, including several tailgates, recruitment, Halloween and Jungle parties in the fall, and semi-formal in December. In the spring, the brothers hosted a

date party to watch the Birmingham Bulls hockey team, a brotherhood crawfish boil and formal.

A major part of the Pi Chapter included philanthropy and giving back to the community. Brothers participated in numerous blood drives and philanthropic events for different Greek organizations throughout the year. For Samford Gives Back in April, the Sigma Chi brothers worked on renovations at the Heathermoor Estates in Moody, Alabama.

Throughout the year, the Pi Chapter continued to be a place of learning, growth and service.

"The brothers here have lived up to every single thing that they mentioned to each person rushing," according to sophomore health care administration major Benny Gilliard. "This chapter is extremely special and I am honored to call these men my brothers."



Photo by: Chase Cochran





Photo by Ben Carrick



Photo by Ben Carrick



Photo by Emma Frances Thompson



Photo by Emma Frances Thompson



Photo by Emma Frances Thompson



Sigma Nu

Written By Matthew Holland

The Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu is rich with history and a strong brotherhood. Throughout its 139 years of continuous operation, it has been a home for Samford men looking to excel and grow in love, truth and honor. The Iota chapter shares in its rich history with many alumni. In October, J. Harry Shannon donated a piece of the original white rose of Sigma Nu to the Iota Chapter. This rose bush now grows outside the fraternity house as a symbol of the rich heritage of the chapter and the strong ties to the national organization.

Sigma Nu also holds their annual alumni gathering in late October, which brings members of all ages together. From brothers that graduated in the early '70s to new graduates, members converse with one another over their strong bond in Sigma Nu.

In addition, members of the Iota chapter find continuous entertainment from their involvement in the chapter. From their Halloween party to Saturday tailgates on the Quad, the brothers seek to create a joyous experience for every member of the chapter.

"Sigma Nu brotherhood is more than just companionship," said sophomore entrepreneurship and finance major Alex Orkin. "It is also knowing that every brother will always

have your back through everything."

This attribute is one the Iota Chapter prides themselves on. Due to their smaller pledge classes, the members are able to create a family atmosphere throughout the fraternity.

The mission of Sigma Nu is to develop ethical leaders inspired by the principles of love, honor and truth, to foster the personal growth of each man's mind, heart and character and to perpetuate lifelong friendships and commitment to the fraternity. Through the help of advisers, alumni, and student leadership, the Iota Chapter is proud to achieve these goals.

An exciting time of year for the brothers of Sigma Nu is the annual trip to Talladega Superspeedway for the spring race. Over the past 15 years, the brothers of Sigma Nu caravan to Talladega for a weekend of racing and fellowship. Many brothers arrive Friday afternoon at the campgrounds and reserve a plot of land for the weekend to camp out in tents and the back of their trucks. This is a great experience for the brothers to get away from their busy campus life and enjoy the company of each other.

"We've always enjoyed going out to Talladega for a few days at the end of the spring semes-

ter to watch the races," said junior Spanish and economics major Luke Shaw. "I think it's one of the best brotherhood events we have as a chapter. I mean what's better than coming out and watching some NASCAR?"

The Iota Chapter of Sigma Nu has a special story that flows from the countless brothers that have devoted their four years of college and beyond to the Chapter. It is a place that over 1,700 young men have called home, and the Iota Chapter looks forward to many more men finding their place as a Knight of the Legion of Honor.



Photo by Ben Carrick



Photo by Emma Frances Thompson



Photo by Emma Frances Thompson

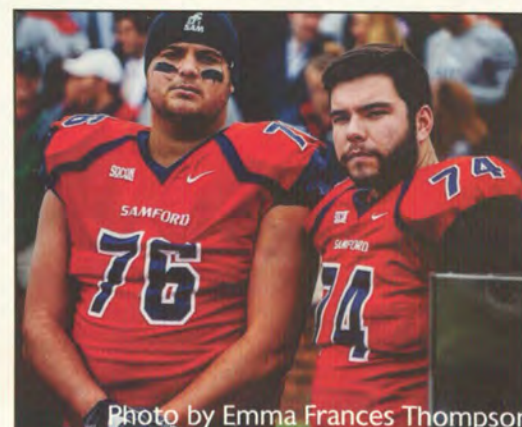


Photo by Emma Frances Thompson

National Pan-Hellenic

Written by Jared Skinner

The National Pan-Hellenic Council is a large, umbrella organization for many of the world's international female sororities. Represented in over 600 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, the organization is made up of over 4 million women. Samford is one of the universities that hosts NPHC organizations.

One of three Greek governing councils on campus, the NPHC consists of three sororities at Samford: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Phi Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta. The council is based in values such as scholarship, leadership and community, as well as students who are interested to try and join.

Encouraged to research and see which organization best fits them, students can then apply, receive an interview and potentially join the NPHC family. Although many NPHC organizations have culturally based foundations, they are open for all students to apply.

With involvement growing and discussions with other graduate chapters to establish organizations on Samford's campus, it seems as if the NPHC will be a growing force on campus. They encourage all to inquire into their mission statements and goals online.



Council



Alpha Kappa Alpha

Written by Theo Edwards-Butler

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded on the campus of Howard University as the first historically black all-female, Greek-lettered organization. On May 15, 1988, Samford University had the privilege of chartering a chapter, making Alpha Kappa Alpha the first black Greek-lettered organization on campus.

The organization was established with the purposes of sisterhood and service. Since their establishment, Alpha Kappa Alpha has gone above and beyond with sisterhood and service. One of the biggest principles — sisterhood — has carried the sorority through the years. The women of Alpha Kappa Alpha are very close and have an unbreakable bond, which goes with them through their lives.

Omicron Mu, Samford's Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, prides themselves on honoring the sisterhood. Due to the small size of the Omicron Mu, members get a chance to know all of their sisters, including past members.

"One of the best things about being an Alpha woman is that you have sisters wherever you go, and the ones you had before will always be there," said new member and junior nursing major Nekayla Anderson. "I learned this

firsthand when I transferred to Samford in the middle of my college career. The women here took me in with open arms, and I still have my sisters at UAB. It's a never-ending sisterhood."

Joining this sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha allows members to grow, both as an individual and as members of a group.

"Being a sister in this organization has taught me so much about meeting people where they are and acting out of kindness and love, regardless of your backgrounds and differences," said past member and alumna of Samford University Erin Carley. "AKA taught me that I can look at another woman, and not know anything about her other than she is an AKA, and bend over backwards for her because she is my sister, and I am responsible for her. That mindset has cultivated relationships for me that I didn't even know I needed; relationships that made me question how I could have possibly functioned without them."

Joining Alpha Kappa Alpha is a lifelong commitment to sisterhood and service to one another and the community. In addition to their love for one another, the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha strive to serve others around them as well.





Delta Sigma Theta

Written by Natane Smith

Photos courtesy of Natane Smith

The Sigma Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was chartered on Samford's campus on March 18, 1995 by 11 illustrious women. As a chapter, the women facilitate and participate in events that promote the five programmatic thrusts upon which the sorority was founded. These are physical and mental health, economic development, international awareness and involvement, educational development and political awareness and involvement.

Each year, the chapter promotes educational development by awarding the Tiffany Nicole Conoway scholarship to a minority Samford student who exemplifies academic excellence and involvement in the community. The scholarship was created in honor of Conoway, who was one of the 11 charter members, because of her work in establishing the chapter and within other organizations on campus and in the community.

The Sigma Eta Chapter continues to make a mark on Samford's campus through annual events, such as Letters to Our Troops, Blood Drives and the Santa's Little Divas toy drive. In addition, the Chapter impacts the community through promoting and volunteering for different events, including Dance Away Diabetes. Dance Away Diabetes benefits Delta Research and the Educational Foundation, which promotes diabetes research and awareness campaigns.

Although a small chapter, the ladies of Sigma Eta make many accomplishments on campus, in the local Birmingham area, and at a national level with the sorority. The Chapter has been able to acquire many different awards for having a high overall GPA, outstanding alumni relations, community involvement and more. Being able to show evidence of the hard work that each sister has done allows for the chapter to reap the benefits and continue to work hard.



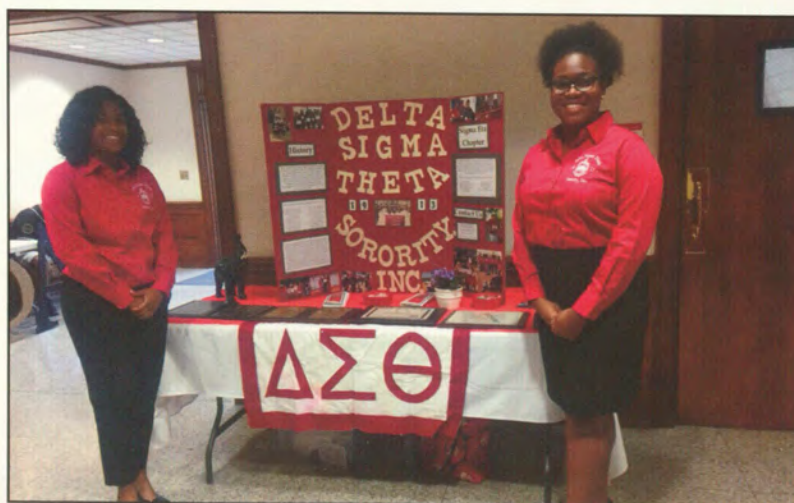
"Dedication, love and sisterhood" is what motivates senior communication science and disorders major Kira Tidmore about the sorority. It is the same mentality that many of the members can say they have when it comes to the sisterhood. Due to their dedication, each member of the chapter is not only involved with Greek Life but with other areas of campus, such as Student Government Association, theater, academic programs and on-campus jobs.

The sisters of the Chapter hold each other accountable to create a sisterhood that sustains the friendships and bonds that are formed.

"Sisterhood of the chapter means being there for each other and helping each other grow and progress through life," said senior healthy science major and 2017-2018 Sigma Eta Chapter President, Courtney Jenkins.

The Sigma Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is laying the foundation for success and achievement of goals for all the ladies who enter into the Delta sisterhood. Due to the love for the sorority that is instilled within each member, the sisterhood continues to make an impact wherever they go.





Alpha Phi Alpha

Written by Gerald Smith

Photos courtesy of Gerald Smith

The brothers of the Tau Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. saw their brotherhood grow stronger during the 2017 – 2018 school year. Despite being a joint chapter with Birmingham-Southern College, the Tau Iota Chapter had their new member presentation on Birmingham-Southern College's campus for the first time this year.

"I'm really blessed and happy to be a part of this fraternity and be the first chapter member to be presented on Birmingham-Southern's Campus," said Kamdell Beckton, fall 2017 initiate, junior pre-engineering and math major at Birmingham-Southern.

According to their website, the mission statement for Alpha Phi Alpha is to "develop leaders, promote brotherhood and academic excellence, while providing service and advocacy for our communities."

The brothers of the Tau Iota Chapter have focused on promoting brotherhood and providing service to the Birmingham community. Brothers spent time with graduate members of the fraternity cleaning up the streets of Birmingham, which helped build the bond between alumni and collegiate brothers. Tau Iota also collected donations and supplies to assist with hurricane relief for the United States and Puerto Rico.

During the spring, the Tau Iota Chapter spent a lot of time strengthening the bond of brotherhood throughout the entire fraternity. The brothers traveled to Memphis, Tennessee, to attend the Southern Regional Convention.

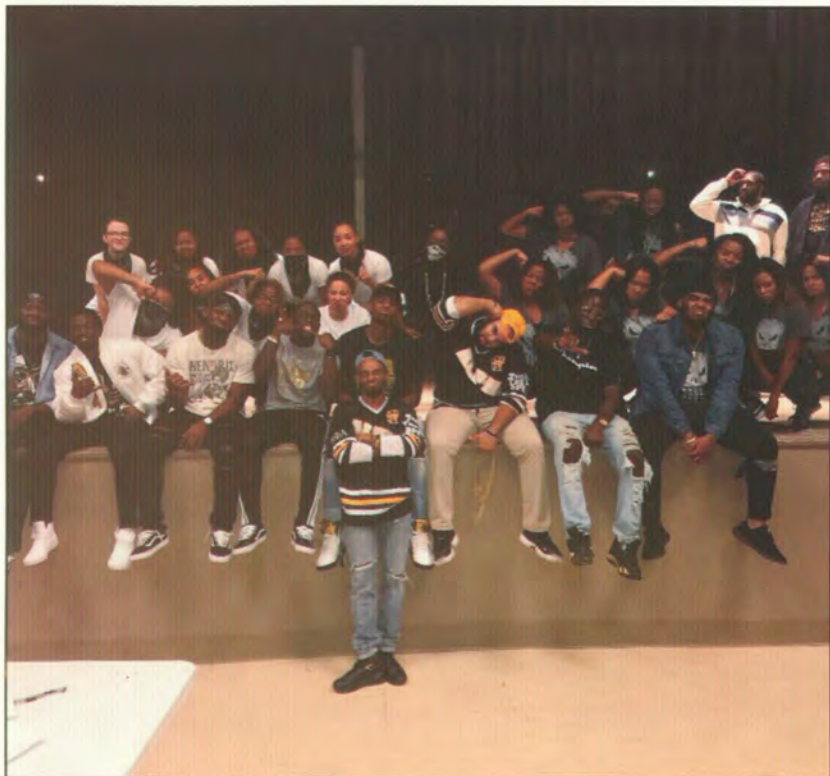
"The convention is when you see the real brotherhood of Alpha," said

Tau Iota Chapter President, senior business administration major and Birmingham-Southern College student, Jonny Banks. "Brothers from all over the South come in as strangers but leave as friends. It's really an amazing sight."

The chapter also grew the bond of brotherhood with other local chapters. For example, the brothers of the Tau Iota Chapter traveled to serve the Jacksonville community after the town was hit by tornadoes. The brothers of the fraternity gathered to help the Xi Xi Chapter at Jacksonville State University clean up the campus and surrounding areas.

After a successful 2017-2018 school year, the brothers of the Tau Iota Chapter look forward to another successful year as they add even more members to their chapter under the newly elected President, Roland Adams.

"I'm really excited about becoming chapter president and building our brotherhood even stronger in the coming semester," said Adams.





Delta Xi Phi

Written by Jamie Davenport

The Omega Chapter of Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority Incorporated experienced significant change and success during the 2017-2018 academic year. The sorority is distinct in its emphasis on multiculturalism and feminism, among other core values like friendship, service and sisterhood.

Delta Xi Phi acted under these principles in a variety of ways: collaborating with other Greek and non-Greek organizations on campus on projects emphasizing multiculturalism or feminism, expanding the sisterhood throughout the year and doing their best to support the growing Samford community.

In the fall, the sorority partnered with Zeta Tau Alpha to host Bra Pong for Breast Cancer. Through the lighthearted game, hundreds of dollars were raised for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research.

Delta Xi Phi also partnered with the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega to hold a letter-writing campaign around Valentine's Day that encouraged students and faculty to write letters to the women they love and appreciate. Due to its consistent success and the joy it spreads, this is going to become an annual event.

Delta Xi Phi has partnered with multiple non-Greek organizations as well. They collaborated with the Samford Democrats on a Samford Gives Back project and co-hosted a Latin Dance Night with the Latino Student Organization. Through partnerships like these, the sorority strived to maintain strong friendships with organizations throughout campus and ensure comradery with their Samford peers.

Independently, the Omega Chapter also strived to live out their pillars. Through fundraisers for organizations like Women for Women International and donation drives for tornado relief at Jacksonville State University, the sorority went beyond their

national philanthropy to causes both near and far to Samford.

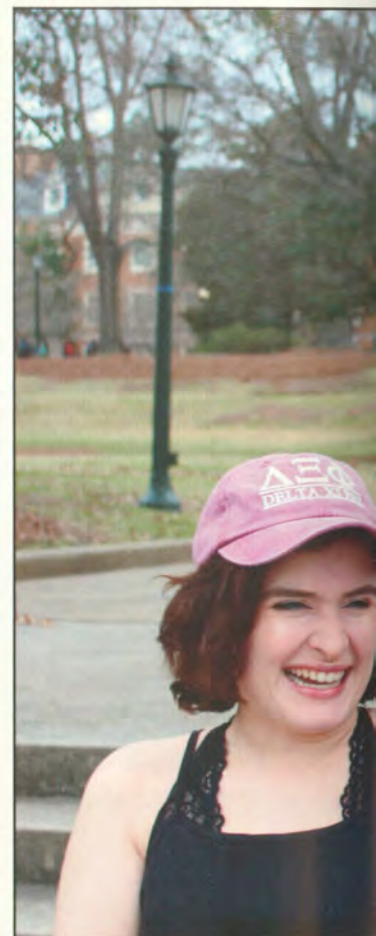
The sisters also pursued progress on campus by screening films that prompt necessary discussions about the LGBTQ+ community, feminism and racism on Samford's campus. Delta Xi Phi also encouraged an exchange of ideas at their annual open mic Slam Poetry night, which provided Samford students an opportunity to both share and learn about various important issues.

"DXP has been an amazing way to meet new people and simultaneously explore ways to advance multiculturalism on Samford's campus," said sophomore philosophy and economics major Moriah Windus.

During the 2017-2018 school year, the sorority focused on expanding the sisterhood through re-growth and supporting its existing sisters. In addition, the sorority continued their tradition of academic excellence and achieved the highest GPA within the Greek community in the fall.

"Deciding to join Delta Xi Phi is proving time and time again to be one of the best decisions of my university career. I'm involved in a group of culturally competent girls with diverse backgrounds and opinions who work hard and passionately for their dreams and the dreams of others," said sophomore political science and English major Jillian Fantin. "DXP's pillars are exactly what they care about and express wholly every day, from encouraging each other to pursue their studies and working in other areas of campus to improving Samford for all students."

Delta Xi Phi is excited about the progress they made this year and looks forward with hope for the future of the chapter.





Order of Omega

Written by Mary Clark Herrod

Order of Omega is a nationally recognized Greek Leadership Honor Society. Samford hosts the Xi Xi chapter. Each spring, Order of Omega invites members of the Greek community to apply for membership into Order of Omega. From these applicants, those who are accepted for Order of Omega membership must exhibit qualities of scholarship and leadership in their Greek organization, as well as in their Greek community.

The organization recognizes just a few of the outstanding members of the Greek community and offers them the opportunity to meet and interact with members of different Greek organizations that might share the same goals.

Lacey Hughes, a junior TriDelta pharmacy student who was inducted into Order of Omega this Spring, said of joining the organization, "It was such an honor to be inducted into Samford's chapter of Order of Omega. I love and value the Greek com-

munity, and it was rewarding to be recognized among the top 3 percent of Greeks at this initiation. I look forward to getting to know the Greek community to better through this organization."

Order of Omega recognizes Greek students for their scholarship and leadership capabilities and allows them to interact with the broader Greek community.

Lillie Baggett, a junior Chi Omega and biology major, said of Order of Omega, "I was honored when I found out I had been selected for initiation into Order of Omega. I think it is so important that we recognize and celebrate the excellence of our Greek members, especially in a time that sororities and fraternities receive bad publicity nationwide. Order of Omega is an opportunity to show our campus, and the skeptics, that our Greeks are invested in academics, serving each other, and the community at large."



Greek Draft

Written by Anne Davis Parks


Every year, Greek Life hosts a "Greek Draft" where Greek organizations compete to claim an athletic team to support for the year. This event was held on Oct. 4, 2017, and the fraternities and sororities supported their newly won teams for the rest of the year, attending games and sending good luck goody baskets to the players.



Alpha Delta Pi: Football
Alpha Omicron Pi: Baseball
Alpha Tau Omega: Volleyball
Chi Omega: Golf
Delta Delta Delta: Men's Basketball
Lambda Chi Alpha: Men's Cross
Country and Track
NPHC: Women's Track
Phi Mu: Men's Tennis
Pi Kappa Phi: Softball
Sigma Chi: Women's Soccer
Sigma Nu: Women's Tennis
Zeta Tau Alpha: Women's Basketball







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Orientation 2017

Written by Morgan Johnson

Bulldog Days 2017, more commonly known as Orientation, was a summer full of new friendships, great memories, and preparation for freshmen's first year at Samford.

Incoming freshmen arrived on campus bright and early on the morning of their Orientation session and were greeted by the eight Orientation Leaders. Their Orientation Leaders, or "OLs," guided them through the next two days they spent on campus.

To the Orientation Leaders, it was important that the bonds made during Orientation lasted longer than the two short days on campus. The OLs wanted the freshmen to know they would be there for them even after the summer. This was the most meaningful part of Orientation for freshman music major Audrey Harris.

"My OL was super nice to me and always answered any question I had," said Harris. "But she was also my first friend at Samford, which I never would have expected."

During Orientation, freshmen handled important business like registering for classes, meeting with advisers, and learning what to expect in college. Along with this preparation, there was plenty of time to relax and have fun with fellow freshmen. From eating meals in the Caf to late night karaoke and swing dancing, Orientation was a great time for freshmen to start lifelong relationships through getting to know others in the Class of 2021.

Most of all, it was a time for freshmen to get ready to call Samford their home in just a few weeks. For junior nursing major and OL Chelsea Davis, this was the goal of Bulldog Days.

"I wanted freshmen to be able to tangibly see that Samford can be a home for them," said Davis. "Orientation really helped both parents and students see what Samford could be like while just spending those two days on campus."



Connections 2017

Written by Morgan Johnson

Pictures courtesy of Preston Little

The first weekend of freshman year is always one of the most fun. Connections Weekend is a time for every freshman to have a chance to make friends, explore Birmingham, and have an overall great close to the summer.

Connections 2017 kicked off with a farewell session for parents and students after move-in. Once parents left, all the Connections fun began. Freshmen were divided into groups and officially welcomed to Samford by their Connections Leaders, or CLs.

Events were planned throughout the entire weekend to make sure everyone felt welcomed to their new home and their new city.

These events included team building activities on Samford's quad, a carnival at Railroad Park, and going to President Andrew Westmoreland's house for popsicles.

There were also opportunities to find ways to get plugged in to Birmingham and the Samford community, such as info sessions about student organizations and a church fair.

To CL Emily London, junior English and classics major, the weekend was a really special time to bond even outside of the scheduled events.

"There were so many great events throughout the weekend that are fun opportunities for getting to know students and answering their questions," said London. "But my favorite times during the weekend each year are always the unplanned moments like the ones where we can all just hang out."

Students were constantly encouraged by their CLs to take full advantage of the weekend to prepare for a year of growth, whether it be socially, academically, or spiritually. This was especially important to students that were far from home like freshman religion major, Grace Phillips.

"My Connections Leaders really made my experience," said Phillips, "Because I'm from far away, I needed that distraction to not miss my parents."

Connections weekend ended on Sunday night at Your School, Your City. In addition to the cally, or spiritually.





"My Connections
Leaders really
made my
experience"





"What other day do you get to walk out of class and stare right at a llama?"



Welcome Back Week

Written by Katie Roth

For most students, the phrase "back to school" isn't one that sparks excitement. That's why Samford tries to surprise students with a variety of fun activities throughout their first week back on campus. Known as "Welcome Back Week," the week of Aug. 28 was packed with daily events planned by the Student Activities Council to ease any worries of starting a new semester.

Monday started out strong with a "Welcome Home" photo booth and cookies from Icing on the Cookie, a local Homewood favorite.

On Tuesday, students were surprised to walk out of classes to find a petting zoo in Ben Brown.

"Personally, the petting zoo was my favorite thing Samford brought on campus," said freshman music major Audrey Harris. "What other day do you get to walk out of class and stare right at a llama?"

Tuesday continued with a night out at the Baron's baseball game at Region's Field for students who signed up for their free ticket at the SAC table earlier in the day.

Church Connections was held on Wednesday. Multiple churches from the Birmingham area set up tables to inform students about different opp-

ortunities to get connected with off-campus church communities.

"Coming from a church family that I loved, I knew it would be a challenge to find a church in Birmingham that really felt like home," said freshman secondary education major Eulaya Erb. "Church Connections, however, really helped open my eyes to several of the incredible church families in Birmingham! The fact that Samford prioritized a church connection event made me feel welcome and included as a freshman still finding her way around campus."

Thursday proved to be the highlight of the week for many students as they attended the first football tailgate and game of the season. The Res Life tent served free food and handed out spirit buttons before kickoff. Samford beat Kennesaw State 28-23 in a game that kept students on their toes.

To wrap up the week, the SAC coined the term "Floats with the Goats" in honor of the Friday event hosted by some of the greatest people on Samford's campus. President Andrew Westmoreland, Samford's Vice Presidents and SAC members served homemade Coca-Cola and root beer floats to students who were now ready to take on the fall semester.



Your School Your City

Ben Rector's Return To Campus

Written By Eva Parker

As soon as the gates for the burrito buffet opened, a mass of hungry and eager students filled Ben Brown. On the Quad, local Birmingham favorites like Jim 'N Nicks Barbecue, Alabama Outdoors, and Steel City Pops handed out free items such as cups, coupons, and stickers to a plethora of concertgoers.

"I thought it was cool that there was a variety of businesses there — places that I wouldn't have had the opportunity to know about otherwise," said freshman music and worship major, Erin Brooks.

Each year, the Student Activities Council, or SAC, hosts Your School, Your City the day before classes begin to encourage new and returning students to see what Birmingham has to offer. In addition to having food and vendor tents, there is also a large concert which is arguably the most beloved part of the night.

SAC pulled off the impressive feat of getting Ben Rector, a popular singer-songwriter who is adored by a large majority of the student population, to headline the concert. However, this was not Rector's first time playing for the students as he made an appearance at the 2012 Homecoming bonfire. When it was announced on social media that Ben Rector would be playing at Your School, Your City this year, the reactions of students ranged from pure disbelief to absolute excitement.

"When I found out that Ben Rector was coming, it was 1 a.m. and my whole family was asleep, so I blasted my favorite songs of his in my room and had a dance party!" said freshman music and worship major, Erin Lamb.

Before Rector graced the stage, the crowd was treated to the musical styles of two equally talented musicians: Devon Gilfillian, a bluesy singer-songwriter, and Thirdstory, an alternative band.

After the opening acts, the throng of fans was restless to hear Ben Rector sing. The anticipation had been building up for hours, and he was welcomed onstage with a frenzy of applause. He played many fan favorites including "Brand New," "Forever Like That," "White Dress," and "When a Heart Breaks." The crowd was electric, jumping around, and dancing to every song he played. Every student left singing their favorite songs from the night.

All in all, Your School, Your City was an outstanding event that will be remembered for many years to come.



Tailgates

Written by Abby Zajac

During the fall semester, students enjoy Saturdays on the quad tailgating with family and friends.

"I love friends, football, and food," said Samford junior Glenna Bridges. "What more could you want?"

The majority of students would likely agree with Bridges. Most Greek Organizations are represented in the quad to cheer on the Bulldogs and all students are welcome to enjoy the food from the Residence Life tailgate.

The entire Samford Community, including alumni, students, faculty and staff, come to support the bulldogs for the Homecom-

ing game and for Family Weekend, both which take place during the fall semester and football season.

The Bulldog Walk, a Samford tradition, takes place before every home game during prime tailgate time, where the cheerleaders and dance team perform before the marching band and the football players walk from the University Center to get ready for the game. Football coach Chris Hatcher leads the way as the student body cheers on the team before kickoff.

Expect to see a crowd of red and blue on the quad on game days in the fall as they enjoy good food and fun times with friends and family.



Family Weekend

Written by Eva Parker

Although campus life is always active, most students find themselves missing certain aspects of home at one point or another. Whether it's being with their families, eating at their favorite hometown restaurants, or relaxing in the comforts of their own home, most students face a tiny bit of homesickness after returning to campus from summer break.

In light of this struggle, Family Weekend becomes something to look forward to. This weekend is a chance for students to show their families what makes Samford so special to them. Typically occurring in the last weekend of September, it is the perfect time for students to spend quality time with their families whom they often have not seen since move-in weekend.

Senior Sarah Beth Burden looks forward to Family Weekend every year, especially as a nursing major who endures long and exhausting hours of schoolwork.

"After a week full of tests and clinicals, seeing my family was exactly the break I needed. I look forward to Family Weekend every year," said Burden. "It is a joy to share the things I love with them."

The busy weekend began with a tailgate on Samford's quad that was filled with tents from students' home states, Greek life, Student Government, and more. Meredith Stone, a freshman journalism and mass communications major, had a chance to show her family about

her college life by taking them to the tents she was affiliated with and introducing her family to the campus community she had gained.

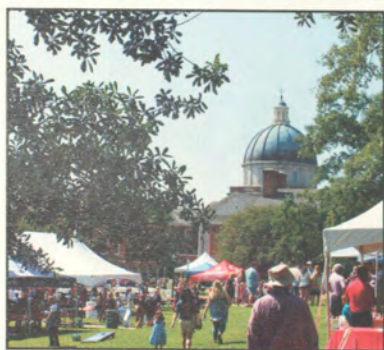
"Samford is so special because of the people. Everyone is so kind and welcoming," said Stone. "Also, the Christian atmosphere of the school is so unique and refreshing. I couldn't wait to show my family around campus because I wanted them to see the beautiful campus I have the privilege of walking every day. I wanted them to see that every penny they are spending is well worth it!"

In addition to the tents that represented student activities, there was one large tent that offered food and refreshments for students and their families. Jim 'N Nicks catered brisket, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, and their renowned cheese biscuits. The tent was packed with hundreds of families crowded inside to get a good lunch.

After the tailgate, Samford's football team beat The Citadel with a hard-earned and respectable score: 35 to 14. Every family who attended the game got to experience the very best of Samford with a winning score and skies entirely clear with weather in the low 80s.

Overall, Family Weekend was the ideal time for families and students to reunite amidst lively and enjoyable activities.





Ben Brown Plaza

Written By Ally Sorrells

Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, Samford's social hub abounded with students mingling with one another. From Welcome Back Week to Summer Send Off, Ben Bound Plaza was once again a favorite hang out spot for students on campus.

Centrally located between the University Center and major buildings, such as the library and Dwight Beeson Hall, students utilized Ben Brown Plaza as a central meeting place after class or hours of studying in the library. Whether stopping by for a quick hello, enjoying an activity that was hosted in Ben Brown, meeting up to go to the cafeteria or studying on the benches on a nice day, students utilized Ben Brown Plaza daily.

"Ben Brown Plaza is a great place for students to hang out because its on the center of campus," said junior journalism and communications major Abby Zajac. "I don't know anyone who doesn't love sitting by the fountain on a nice day."

In addition to serving as the perfect meeting place for students, Ben Brown Plaza hosted a variety of events throughout the year. Annual events, such as the Student Activities Council's Summer Send-Off, were hosted in Ben Brown Plaza. In addition to a variety of annual events that commonly find their home in Ben Brown Plaza, different organizations

from all over campus used Ben Brown Plaza to raise awareness for their organization or philanthropy, such as PRSSA's Bateman Team.

"PRSSA was able to use Ben brown during the Bateman Competition so that the Bateman Teams could reach out to Samford students by passing out flyers, having activities and taking pictures," said Zajac.

Ben Brown Plaza's was packed with students and activities during the 2017-2018 school year, and students will continue to utilize the space for years to come.



Harry's Concerts

Written by Stephen Defrancesco

A buzz of excitement. The aroma of coffee. Music drifting throughout the room.

These things describe what Harry's Coffeehouse is like every third Thursday of the month. Sponsored by the Student Activities Council, a branch of SGA, Harry's concerts are one of the longest traditions offered at Samford. Every month, a group of people from the SAC selects an up-and-coming artist to perform at each event. Students throughout campus are chosen to open these concerts with their own musical talents.

"It was so cool to see so many people in so many different classes all coming out to enjoy music and socialize with each other," said freshman psychology major Molly Finnegan. "I loved getting to play in a smaller setting with all my friends there, but also loved getting to meet new people. I think it's important to get involved on campus so you can see the impact you can make in a larger way than just in your classes or on your hall. You can make a difference throughout campus."

Students attend these free concerts each month, and every concert is different. Artists like The Brook and the Bluff, Stephen Day, Emily Hearn, My Brothers and I and Cody Fry have performed as part of the Harry's Coffeehouse Concert Series.

"I love Harry's Coffeehouse concerts because of the environment," said Annie Roache, a sophomore business major. "You get to hang out with friends and take some time out of your busy schedule to relax and enjoy great live music. It's also free, which is a great perk."

The SAC also sponsors live music events like Lighting of the Way and the Spring Concert in conjunction with the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Office of Student Activities and Events encourages students to give their input as to which artists they want to come to Samford in the future. The music scene throughout campus is growing more and more every year thanks to Harry's Coffeehouse.



Homecoming

Written by Abby Zajac

Every year, Samford University welcomes alumni and the community to celebrate Homecoming. Homecoming Week is full of tradition — from student organizations painting Homecoming boards in Ben Brown Plaza to presenting the Homecoming King and Queen at the football game.

This year was special because Samford retired the old mascot and introduced the new bulldog to the student body and Samford community. The first presentation was on Thursday night at Bulldog Bash when Sam, the new mascot, drove into Ben Brown Plaza on a motorcycle. Then during halftime at the football game against East Tennessee State University, Spike, the old mascot, graduated from Samford University in a cap and gown with a diploma presented by Dr. Andrew Westmoreland. Students cheered as Samford won against its Southern Conference rival with the scoreboard reading 42-7.

During the week, students enjoy different events hosted by the Student Activities Council. Events included free food, games and live music while students painted Homecoming boards and took a break from classes. The 2017 alumni of the year honorees judged over 10 decorated Homecoming boards, awarding first place to Samford Crew, second place to a collaboration with Delta Delta Delta and National Pan-Hellenic Council, and third place to a collaboration between Alpha Omicron Pi and Alpha Tau Omega.

"It was really exciting working on PRSSA's first homecoming board," said Public Relations Student Society of America Communications Chair Eli Zuspan. "It gave us an opportunity to raise awareness for PRSSA while building relationships with other people."

During Bulldog Bash on Nov. 9, Anna Rogers, a senior who is a

member of Chi Omega Zeta Zeta and president of Body Positive, as well as Nelson Park, the SGA President, were crowned Homecoming King and Queen. Other senior class representatives on the homecoming court included: Kristin Thurwachter, Caroline Carlisle, Tucker Freeland and Cass Waddell. The junior class representatives were Meg Alford and John Collier. The sophomore class representatives were Chloe Champion and Harrison Hansard. Lastly, the freshman class representatives were Kailee Marasco and Drew Fillinger.

"Homecoming week is always an exciting time around campus and honestly it is one of my favorite weeks, said Annual Events Director, Aimee Dykes said. "It serves as a reminder of where we have come from and where we are going. Samford is such a special place and this week allows us to take a look into what has made it so special throughout the years. This year we really tried to capitalize on those things that make it special. We included activities that portrayed everything from Connections weekend to our love for Dr. Westmoreland."



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo by Abby Zajac





Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo Courtesy of SAC



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo courtesy of SAC



Photo courtesy of SAC



Photo courtesy of SAC



Photo courtesy of SAC



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo by Alyssa Hall



Photo by Abby Zajac



Photo by Abby Zajac

Miss Samford 2018

Written by Katie Roth

On Nov. 4, 2017, the final 10 participants for the Miss Samford 2018 Pageant were welcomed to the Wright Center stage by a cheering crowd of supportive family and friends.

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the pageant, the theme of the night was "Celebrate the '70s." In true '70s theme, the opening number consisted of a dance to the song "You're The One That I Want" from the 1978 film "Grease."

The host for the night was Miss Samford 1998, who won the pageant her freshman year. She asked contestants the onstage questions, which included controversial topics ranging from banned books to school shootings.

In addition to the onstage interviews with the host, each contestant was judged based on their private interview, talent, evening wear, and the lifestyle, fitness and swimsuit category. When calculating the contestants' final score in each category, the highest and lowest scores from each judge were discarded. By the end of the night, the results were in.

Martha Swanson, a freshman early childhood elementary and special education major, was presented with the Spirit of Miss Samford Award. This award was voted upon by the other contestants in recognition of Swanson's American Sign Language performance

of "Testify" by Need to Breathe.

The second runner-up of the competition and winner of the \$250 scholarship was communication sciences and disorders major, Haley Shrewsbury.

The first runner-up and winner of a \$500 scholarship was junior journalism and mass communication major, Hattie Breece. Since Miss Samford 2018 was the first pageant Breece had competed in, she was "so surprised and excited" to hear her name called.

"It was something that I had thought about for a while and that I thought I had the potential to be successful in," said Breece. "I worked really hard to learn the most I could and to become the best I could be. I knew I would regret it if I didn't try."

As the night came to a close, the anticipation had built as everyone awaited the announcement of the \$1,000 scholarship winner, Miss Samford 2018.

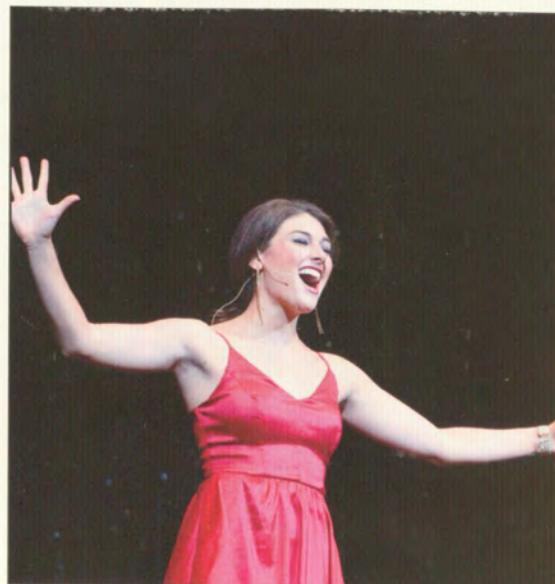
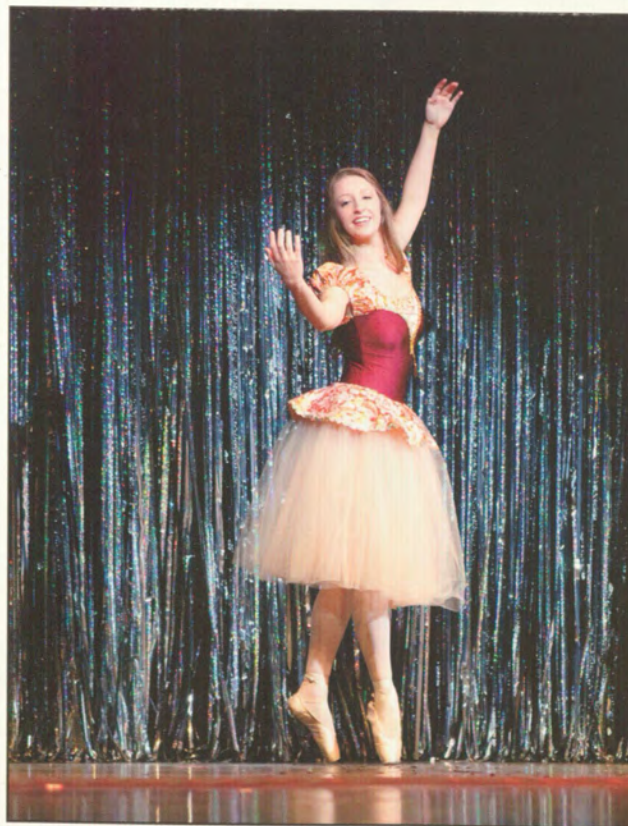
When the talent winner and regular pageant competitor Thomason Bryan's name was announced, the crowd cheered as Bryan's family and friends waved their "T" signs in the air.

"When I began looking at colleges, I immediately knew Samford was my number one choice for many reasons, and it was in finalizing the decision to come to this incredible school that I realized one day I wanted to represent this university as Miss Samford on the Miss Alabama stage," said Bryan. "Samford is a place that has poured so much into me, and I now have a wonderful opportunity to pour right back into it."





"I worked really hard to learn the most I could and to become the best I could be. I knew I would regret it if I didn't try."



Lighting Of The Way

Written by Katie Roth

The Hanging of the Green service was not on the calendar this year due to the construction work happening around Reid Chapel, but that did not stop the Student Activities Council from hosting the annual Lighting of the Way event, an early Christmas celebration, on Nov. 30.

It started with First Lady Jeanna Westmoreland's reading of the Christmas story from the second chapter of Luke. She was then joined by President Andrew Westmoreland for the most anticipated moment of the night — the tree lighting.

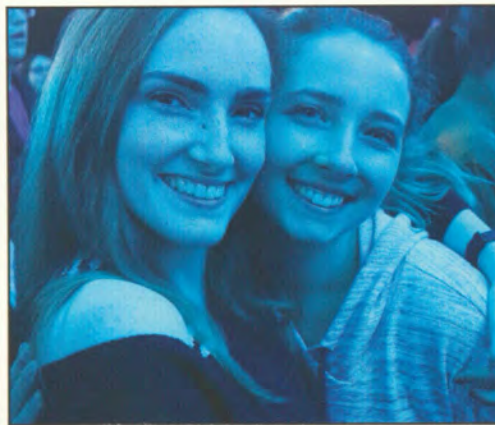
Multiple tents were set up on the quad in case of rain, and luckily, the rain held off for most of the night. Each tent housed different refreshments and activities.

Students gathered to drink hot chocolate, eat festive treats, decorate cookies and even write letters to Santa. It was the perfect way for students to relax before classes began wrapping up the semester with projects and finals.

"It gave us all a chance to blow off steam and hang out with friends," said sophomore history major Ben Hewitt. "I loved Lighting of the Way for the atmosphere."

The musical guest of the night was Anthem Lights, a pop group from Nashville. They played Christmas music, some of their original music and many of their well-known covers and mash-ups. Students sang and danced for hours under the red and green concert lights.

"My favorite part was singing along to Anthem Lights covers with everybody!" said sophomore communication sciences and disorders major Janae Tinklenberg. "I really enjoyed the 'Taylor Swift Mash-up.'" Lighting of the Way was the perfect occasion to prepare everyone for Dec. 1 and the upcoming Christmas season.





Step Sing

Written by Ashlee Fincher

Pictures by Chase Cochran and Abby Zajac

In 1951, Step Sing began on the steps Renfroe Hall on Howard College's East Lake Campus. It brought the Samford community together through showcasing students' musical and theatrical talents.

This year, Samford continued the annual Step Sing tradition that required hours of work from performers, committee members and leadership roles. Nicole Klaubert, Sarah Tomei and Haley Schnieder were all part of the Step Sing 2018 leadership team. Planning the show since last February, the girls spent over 800 hours preparing for Step Sing Week by attending tech rehearsals, sending out Candy Grams and partnering with athletics by working the Samford basketball games.

"Step Sing is an illustration of the Samford community and the way we often come together to support each other and produce

something larger than ourselves," said Klaubert. "Not only does Step Sing bring students together, but it also creates awareness and provides financial support to a different philanthropy each year."

Samford took applications and nominations from people in the community to find this year's philanthropy to support. This year's philanthropy was Magic City Woodworks, founded by Lawrence Sheffield in 2013. Their vision was to bridge the gap for men between employment and unemployment by teaching them a trade skill: woodwork. Step Sing was able to raise over \$13,700 for Magic City Woodworks, which will be used to hire two more apprentices.

This year, 15 groups competed to be named the winner in one of three divisions: Sweepstakes, Men's Division and Women's Division.

After four performances were held Thursday through Saturday, judges voted and named Alpha Delta Pi's "Bawk" as the Sweepstakes Winner. Dudes-A-Plenty's "Vampires" and Chi Omega's "Hold on for Deer Life!" won the Men's and Women's Divisions, respectively.

Madeline Allred, a junior management and marketing double major with a concentration in social entrepreneurship, was one of the directors of the winning show, "Bawk." Allred attributed their win to taking a risk and thinking outside the box.

"It was definitely scary stepping in a different direction and a challenge getting everyone 100 percent on board at first," said Allred. "But once everyone bought in and cut loose, we were able to attain our goal: putting on a comical girls' show."



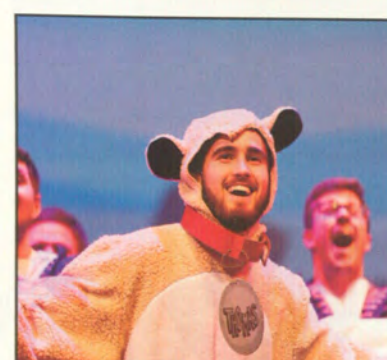
Photo by Abby Zajac



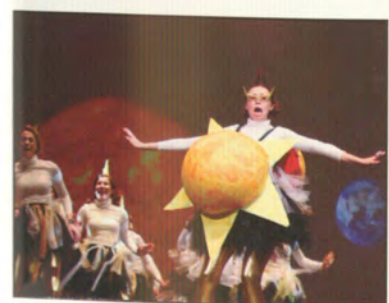
Photo by Chase Cochran



Photo by Jade Baker



Ignite



Freshman Ladies



Alpha Tau Omega



Alpha Omicron Pi



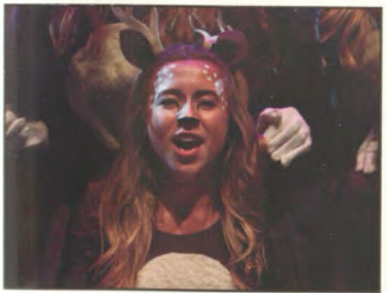
Independent Ladies



Pi Kappa Phi



Chi Omega



Sigma Chi



Alpha Delta Pi



Freshman Girls



Phi Mu



Delta Delta Delta



Zeta Tau Alpha



Dudes a Plenty



Spectrum



Unclassified



Sophomore Girls



Easter Egg Hunt

Written by Ashlee Fincher

Photos by Caroline Miller and Katie Roth

On March 22, 2018, over 250 students participated in the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Concert hosted by the Student Activities Council. Members of the Student Activities Council dedicated several hours to plan the event and stuff hundreds of Easter eggs with candy.

"Egg stuffing was crazy, and we did all this planning, but the actual hunt lasted less than a minute," said sophomore marketing and management major Ally Anker. "It was so fun seeing all our hard work create so much joy for fellow students."

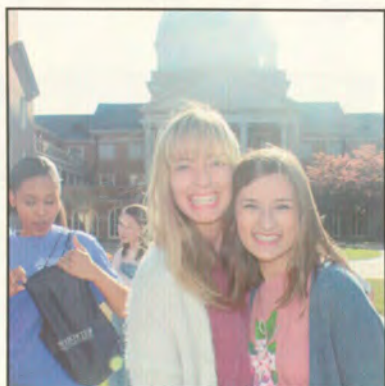
Students were able to come together as a community for 30 seconds of mayhem as they searched for eggs filled with candy or slips of paper, which allowed them to claim prizes. These prizes ranged from a \$50 gift card to Target to smoothies from Freshens.

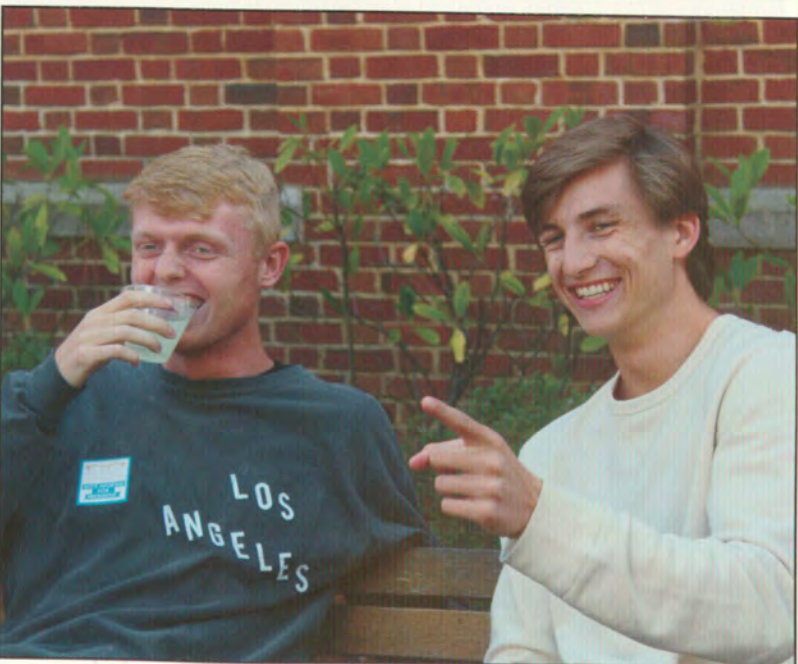
Cody Fry, a singer and songwriter based in Nashville, pro-

vided musical entertainment at the event. After performing with Ben Rector as a guitarist and keyboardists at the Your School Your City event, Fry wanted to come back and play again for the Samford community.

"Cody was very entertaining, and it was fun to listen to his music and be able to gather with my friends as we ate dinner in Ben Brown," said freshman economics and finance double major Liz Giles Calvert.

At the concert, Fry played both covers and original songs. He shared stories from his journey to becoming a professional musician. For example, Fry tried out for "American Idol" and was loved by all of the judges, except Jennifer Lopez. He also had one of his songs featured on The CW's show "Beauty and the Beast." Several Samford students were fans of the television show. Affectionately called Beas-ties, those fans were excited to sing along to "Find My Way Back," Fry's song that was featured in the season finale.





Beeson Ball

Written by Katie Roth

On Friday, March 23 from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., Beeson Ball was held in the McWane Science Center in the heart of downtown Birmingham. This event, first held in 2004, is an annual formal dance open to all undergraduate students and hosted by Samford's Residence Life staff. Free tickets were available to undergraduates prior to the event.

"Beeson Ball isn't the type of event where you can go once and feel like you don't need to go again. The youthful atmosphere paired with great music and friends makes you want to go back year after year," said sophomore political science major Kiarra Broadnax. "It's also important for non-Greek students to have a place to have fun and let loose."

This year, the theme for the dance was "Where's Ralph Waldo?" This theme was created with both Martin Handford's "Where's Waldo?" book series and one of Samford's founders in mind. Ralph Waldo Beeson was a

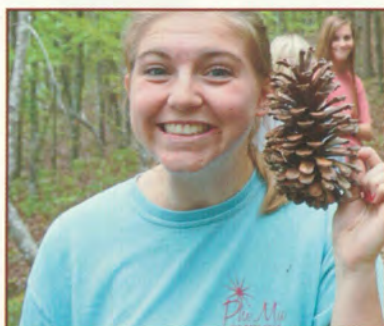
major benefactor to the Samford community. Due to his generous donations, Beeson Divinity School, Beeson Woods, the School of Education and part of the University Center were able to be constructed. Many scholarships were also funded by the Beeson family.

To fit the inventive theme, tables were decorated with centerpieces made of "Where's Waldo?" books, magnifying glasses and other themed trinkets. Refreshments were served throughout the night, and students spent their time exploring three different floors filled with science exhibits and dancing the night away in the Drayton Nabers, Jr. Event Center.

"Growing up in Birmingham, the McWane Science Center was always a fun place to visit," said sophomore journalism and mass communications major Kasey Strout. "Having an event there as a college student is very nostalgic for me. I enjoyed adding to the memories that I have there."







Samford Gives Back

Written by Ashlee Fincher



Samford Gives Back is a time-honored tradition for the students at Samford University. Incentivized by the opportunity to gain four convocation credits and serve the community, students gathered at various locations around Birmingham to volunteer their time and skills in a variety of different activities. This year, students volunteered at nursing homes, nature centers, kid's clubs and other community centers.

Carson Guess, a junior accounting major, went with Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honors group, to the Ronald McDonald House. Guess organized the trip by reaching out to Ronald McDonald House about any potential opportunities for volunteers to help with projects. They quickly responded and had the group assemble large bulletin boards to hang on the guests' doors.

"It is an opportunity for us to spend a Saturday morning giving back to the community that has given us so much," said Guess. "It is a chance for us to intentionally and purposefully do something for others rather than for ourselves."

During their visit, Beta Alpha Psi learned about the Ronald McDonald House and its

mission to make sure no child or child's family has to be without a home during difficult treatments. The group benefitted from serving together as they grew closer and learned more about each other during their few hours of service.

Brooke Anna Canada, a junior communication sciences and disorders major, led the Alpha Delta Pi sorority in a trip to Brookdale Place, a retirement center across the street from Samford.

Canada chose this place because she has a passion for elderly people and has personally witnessed the joy that a younger generation brings to the elderly. During their visit, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi went line dancing with some residents, played games, mingled and even had a technology information session, which they used to teach lessons on basic iPhone use.

"Samford Gives Back is important because it is an opportunity to get out the Samford bubble and make an impact on the community," said Canada. "You learn about other people's needs, and by helping others, you become transformed and refreshed."



Residence Life

Written by Anne Davis Park

From freshmen women in Vail to seniors living in Beeson Woods, every hall or building that houses students on campus is assigned a Resident Assistant. These students work hard to create community within the dorms and keep the buildings running smoothly.

Residence Life provides opportunities for students to take on leadership roles and strives to create a positive living-learning experience for all who live on campus. On a local level, that means monthly hall activities hosted by each Resident Assistant.

Additionally, Residence Life hosts a number of campus-wide events. Each fall, they host a Halloween party at Skates 280 and have a tent at football tailgates. In the spring, Residence Life hosts the campus-wide dance at McWane Science Center, Beeson Ball. They also host tailgates for other sports, such as basketball and baseball, to encourage residents to support all of Samford Athletics.

"One of my favorite events that Residence Life puts on is Skates 280 because I love seeing all the halls come together to dress up and enjoy a night of skating and hall bonding," said sophomore journalism and mass communication major Page Secreast.

Many Resident Assistants enjoy the community that comes internally within Residence Life and the community on their hall. Working with others through long hours of training in August, late night office shifts and

sharing in the joys and hardships of the job creates a special sense of community for staff members.

"Residence Life has been a great way to meet people I wouldn't have otherwise met on campus. I have had the opportunity to invest in freshmen and also invest in other RAs," said Secreast.

Attending various Resident Assistant events, such as game nights hosted by their area's Residence Life Coordinator and coming together to celebrate holidays, allows Resident Assistants to pour into one another, which gives them energy to give back and be leaders in their halls.





Summer Send Off

Written by Katie Roth

Photos by Abby Zajac and Katie Roth

As finals were quickly approaching and summer was just around the corner, the Student Activities Council held three days of Summer Send-Off events for the student body.

On May 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Annual Flea Market was held in Ben Brown. Students set up tables to sell everything from watercolor paintings to baked goods. A table was also set up with freshly printed copies of the first issue of the rebranded *Sojourn* magazine, which was changed this year from a literary publication to a photojournalism publication. This event was a great way for students to support each other's hard work and enjoy a free cup of Doodle's Homemade Sorbets and Ices on a warm day.

Later that evening, Campus Life and Residence Life teamed up to host a tailgate before the 6 p.m. baseball game, serving free burgers, hot dogs, chips, candy and soft drinks. The game against Samford's rival, the UAB Blazers, ended with a win for the Bulldogs with a final score of 7-5. Attendees stayed after the game to participate in the Money Drop, where a helicopter flew over the stadium and dropped \$1,000 worth of small bills onto the field for students to try to catch.

May 2 started with an event called "Pops and Pastimes," where there were free Steel City Pops available, along with an inflatable obstacle course. The Summer Send-Off Bash was that night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Students chose their free dinner from either the MELT food truck or the Cantina On Wheels food truck and then enjoyed live music from Steve and the Roommates, a band consisting of Samford's very own sophomore guys — Stephen DeFrancesco, James Cole and Blake McLemore.

The last day of Summer Send-Off events started on May 3 at 10 a.m. when students were taken by surprise as a hot air balloon floated above the quad. After signing a waiver, students were able to take a ride in the hot air balloon. While it was tethered to the ground, it was still able to rise about four stories high, which gave students a beautiful view of Samford's campus.

As some students were flying high above campus, others were participating in the "Dog Days of Summer" event by playing with puppies on the quad or eating hot dogs in Ben Brown Plaza. Students also enjoyed taking photo booth pictures with summer themed props and drinking a cold glass of lemonade after receiving their freshly printed copy of the third volume of *The Local* magazine, another student run publication.

The purpose of all of these events was to serve as a form of stress relief during the last three days of classes and to celebrate another year at Samford.





Life on Campus

Written by Ally Sorrells

From being involved with student organizations to living on campus, many students found themselves spending more time on Samford's campus than they did in the greater Birmingham area. Samford provided students with a variety of ways to be involved during the 2017-2018 school year, making it easy for students to find their home on Samford's campus whether they lived on or off campus.

Many students who lived on campus found themselves spending the majority of their time at Samford. These students slept on campus, ate most of their meals on campus and attended various activities on campus, such as classes and meetings to football games and Bible studies.

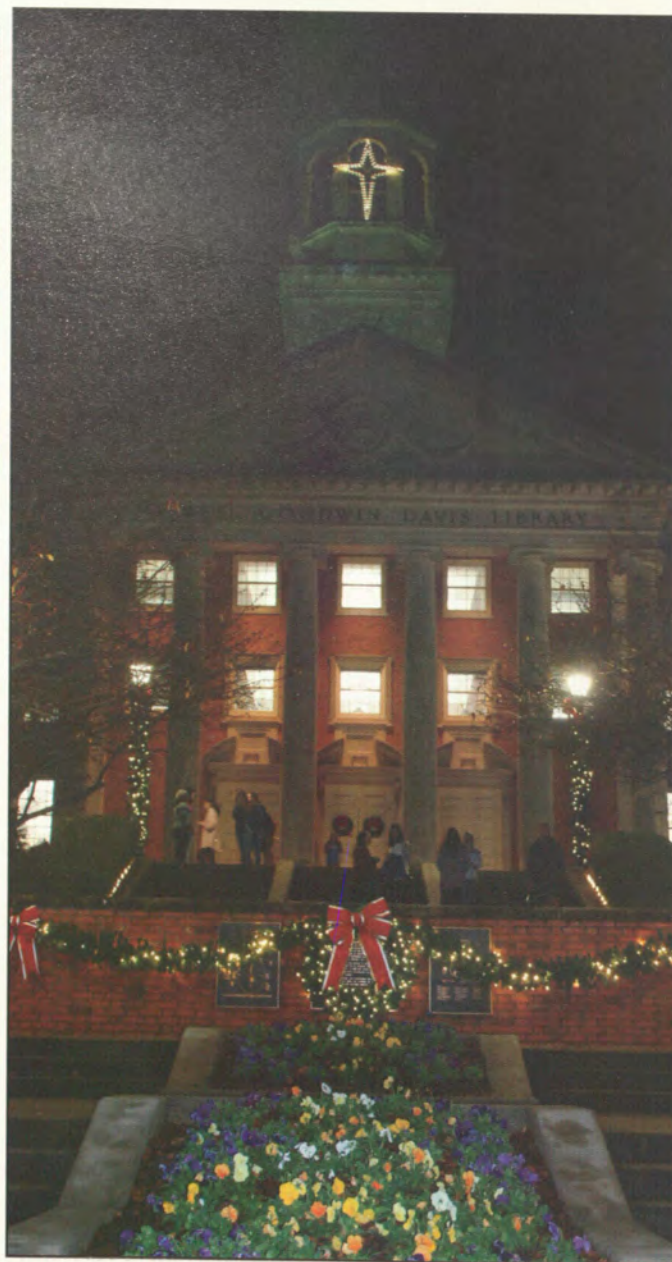
For students that lived off campus, there were still a variety of ways to be involved with Samford's campus life. Many students immersed themselves into Samford's culture through joining any number of organizations on campus, such as Student Government Association and

the Samford Recruitment Team.

Partaking in various of aspects of Samford's campus life allowed students to form bonds with the student body as they immersed themselves into Samford's culture.

Whether actually living on campus or commuting back and forth, the variety of organizations and activities students could partake in throughout the year enriched their Samford experience as they created memories with other members of the student body, faculty and staff through their involvement.







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Air Force ROTC

Written by Morgan Johnson



The AFROTC Program at Detachment 012 is an opportunity for students from Samford and other colleges in the Birmingham area from all majors to be a part of a team that develops leadership, prepares them for the United States Air Force, and provides a community of future leaders.

Each week, cadets spent time enhancing their personal and physical skills through physical fitness training, leadership laboratory, and an Air Force Academic Class. These were all implemented to make sure each student is prepared for life after graduation.

Cadets were also expected to prioritize school over everything and encouraged to do extracurricular activities alongside the AFROTC program. While this made for a busy year, junior cadet Olivia Jarvis was very thankful for the challenges and opportunities she has been faced with from Detachment 012.

"During my time in Air Force ROTC I have been pulled from my comfort zone and continually pushed be the best version of myself," said Jarvis. "While pursuing the dream of becoming an Air Force Officer, I

have found role models of integrity and mentors of selfless character. The leadership experience and camaraderie I have found in this program has been instrumental in preparing me for the next phase of life."

In addition to the more serious side of the AFROTC program, the cadets had plenty of MWRs, which stand for "morale, welfare, and recreation." The MWR times provided the cadets with chances to bond with each other and serve the community. Events this year included laser tag, a Christmas party, and a service project at Red Mountain Park.

To junior cadet Micaiah Helms, the balance of work, fun, and preparation for his future are what make being a part of AFROTC special.

"Joining AFROTC was the best decision I have ever made," said Helms. "The program has given me the chance to further my leadership capabilities alongside my fellow cadets as we strive to embrace the Air Force core values. Being an AFROTC cadet offers me the unique opportunity to serve my country as well as experience life as a college student."



Black Student Union

Written by Joi Moore

The Samford Black Student Union is an organization that gives the minority population on campus a voice. It allows minorities to congregate once or twice a week and talk about pressing social issues that surpass the Samford bubble. It also allows minorities a safe place to speak their minds about life as a minority on a predominantly white campus. As an organization, the Black Student Union supports each other through any trial its members may encounter. As the organization continues to grow in the future, it will continue to impact even more students everyday.

The Black Student Union engages with the rest of the student body by hosting a variety of events throughout the school year. For example, every year the Union hosts a cookout on Dead Day in the spring to facilitate bonding amongst the student body before finals and graduation. In addition to the annual cookout, The Black Student Union partners

with fraternities and sororities such as Alpha Phi Alpha, Tri Delta, Delta Sigma Theta, and Alpha Kappa Alpha to partake in service projects, such as Samford Gives Back.

Senior and former Black Student Union President, Natane Frances, passed the torch on to sophomore Alexis Peaks.

"I'm so excited to be able to implement new ideas" said Peaks. "My goal is to find ways that BSU (Black Student Union) can impact the campus as a whole."

Peaks and the Black Student Union look forward with excitement to the upcoming year. They hope to spread inclusivity throughout the entirety of campus as they continue their involvement at Samford.



Student Government Association

Written by Morgan Johnson

The mission of Samford's Student Government Association, or SGA, is to "unite, empower and inspire." This year, it was the goal of each member of SGA to make this mission statement a reality that spread across the entire student body.

As Press Secretary, junior English major Elizabeth Sturgeon worked hard to ensure the student body understood SGA as a whole and how they could be used by the student body.

"My biggest goal for my position was to educate students about what SGA really is and to hear their thoughts and feedback on it," said Sturgeon. "In order for us to actually serve the students and represent their needs, it is important for them to know what we do."

Many programs and events were implemented to ensure the mission statement was applied throughout campus. Furthermore, SGA worked hard to improve their social media presence to raise awareness regarding their willingness to listen to the student body and make any changes they could.

One of the more popular SGA events this year was the Food Services Town Hall. Hosted by the SGA Student Senate, it was an opportunity for students to speak with Sodexo management. The Town Hall broke barriers between the student body and Sodexo and allowed the Sodexo staff to understand the specific concerns of students regarding the Caf.

Besides the Food Services Town Hall, SGA worked to make many other changes during the year. For example, the Multicultural Affairs Committee continued to improve this year. The Committee hosted many "Face-to-Face with Race" training sessions with student organizations across campus.

Also, Honor Pledge awareness increased through events such as Honor Pledge Week in October and freshmen signing the Honor Pledge for the first time at orientation.

Furthermore, Alpha, a new student ministry, was welcomed onto campus. Through Alpha, the SGA Chaplain had an opportunity to minister to students from different walks of faith.

Nelson Park, a senior public administration major, was very proud to serve as SGA President this year.

"It has been an amazing experience to act as the liaison between the student body and Samford's administration," said Park. "Witnessing SGA leave a legacy of positive change on this campus has been the greatest joy of my college experience."



Student Activities Council

Written by Abby Zajac



Student Activities Council is a branch of Student Government Association. SAC is responsible for planning and hosting events throughout the school year that all students are welcome at. There are three areas within SAC, including Annual Events, Special Events and Music.

"I love SAC so much because of the opportunity I have to create life-long memories for people and myself through event coordination," said Stephen Peacock, a sophomore Spirts Administration major.

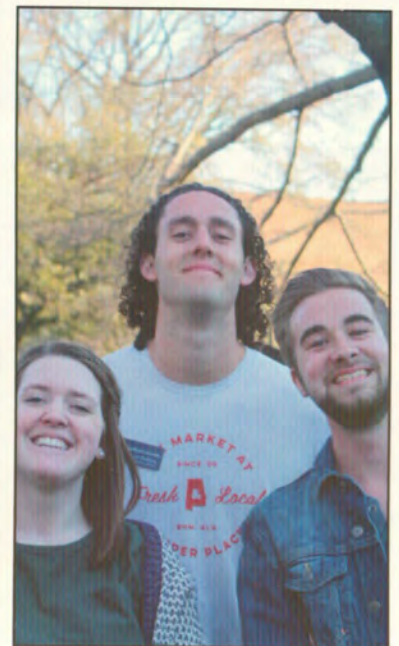
The SAC leadership team is made up of six individuals and led by the Vice President of Events who serves on the Student Executive Board. The positions are as follows: Director of Membership, Director of Annual Events, Director of Special Events, Director of Marketing and Director of Music.

Most, if not all, members of the leadership team have served within SGA and SAC before.

"Serving on the leadership team for SAC has been such an incredible experience, learning from others who encourage me daily and set the example of what humble leadership looks like," said Claudia Stephens, a sophomore Biochemistry Pre-med major and the current Director of Membership.

SAC is a great way to get involved on campus in simple ways. As Samford students look forward to SAC's next events, like Welcome Back Week, Lighting of the Way and Homecoming, they should know that SAC's main goal is to not only have purpose behind their events but for every student to feel welcome at events.

Students can almost always count on free food, live music, fun and games at SAC events, but it's the people who are there that make the event a life-long memory to cherish.



Student Recruitment Team

Written by Stephen DeFrancesco

The Samford Recruitment Team had a record-setting year as they spent time showing prospective families their home away from home. With the largest Preview Day the University has ever seen, the Samford Recruitment Team put in more hours than ever before to ensure prospective families could see Samford's campus.

"From giving tours, helping plan preview days, and interacting with prospective students, SRT has helped me grow in not only my communication skills but leadership skills as well," said Taylor Glow, a senior Samford Recruitment Team Officer. "I think my favorite thing about SRT is that it made me fall in love with Samford even more. Getting to show off one of the greatest places on earth to prospective students is the best!"

Not only did the Samford Recruitment Team put on four Preview Days throughout the year, many team members also traveled to cities to attend Prospective Student events with the Admissions Office. At these events, team members were part of a panel in front of high school students and their parents. They talked about their time at Samford, how they've grown since being in college, and gave advice to families.

They also spent time mingling with families and addressing any of their concerns they might have.

"Being on SRT allows you to meet so many different people and talk with so many different families, which I absolutely love," said Tomi Lyew, a sophomore exercise science major. "This has especially helped me to grow in my communication skills because I get to talk with all kinds of prospective students and their families."

Samford Recruitment Team members also gave weekday tours throughout the year. Whether in the beautiful weather or in the freezing cold rain, Samford Recruitment Team members were always ready to show off their school.

"I have loved being able to share my favorite experiences about the University with new people every day," said Drayton Cullen, a sophomore history and classics major.

Overall, the Samford Recruitment team had an extremely successful year in their record-setting numbers and in their ability to show off the school they call home.



Samford Ambassadors

Written by Morgan Johnson

Samford Ambassadors are a diverse group of students that represent the entire student body and serve a key role in maintaining relationships with alumni and donors by adding a personal touch to alumni association programs.

The Ambassadors work multiple events throughout the year to continue to strengthen the community between former and current students. One of the most meaningful parts of hosting these events, according to sophomore Ambassador Angel Sims, is getting a chance to connect with the people who attend.

"Personally, this organization has improved my people skills and given me a greater appreciation for those donors who have made and continue to make Samford what it is," said Sims. "I have heard so many alumni's 'Samford Stories,' and it amazes

me how God brings certain people to Samford for specific purposes, reminding me that Samford is such an intentional place."

Additionally, the Ambassadors enjoy being a part of the organization because it is an opportunity to pay respect to the people who have come before as Samford students and who donate to make the university what it is today.

"The common theme amongst everyone I worked with was immense respect. Respect for donors, alumni and respect for current students who will one day take on the role of alumni," said Samford Ambassador President, Wesley Walters. "As a senior on my way out of Samford, it was encouraging to see the level of respect and care alumni received even after they left these gates."



Photo by Preston Little



You're Not Alone

Written by Ally Sorrells

Samford's mental health organization, You're Not Alone, had another successful year as they continued to strive toward their mission throughout the 2017-2018 school year. As a mental awareness group, You're Not Alone, commonly referred to as YNA, hosted various events throughout the school year to raise awareness for the organization's national cause.

"You're Not Alone is a non-profit organization that seeks to educate young adults by raising awareness on mental health issues and opening the conversation to how it can have a huge impact in education, business, and life," according to the organization's website. "We are a suicide preventive program that creates a non-judgmental environment where kids can speak and learn more about mental health. Our goal is to remind the youth of today that they are not alone."

To raise awareness on mental health issues, Samford's YNA participated in various events and hosted their annual 5K: Walk Out of Darkness. All Samford students were welcome to participate in the 5K, and the event successfully brought attention to mental health issues.

In addition to actively raising awareness, Samford's YNA utilized the university's Christian mission to comfort students that found themselves in a place of darkness.

"My main focus for the year was to make sure that everyone felt connected. Anything that I could offer as a peace of mind was Biblically based," said YNA's 2017-2018 Chaplain and senior communications major, Dalton Roach. "No one is ever truly alone because Christ is always on our side."

YNA's continued impact on Samford's mental health community would not have been possible without its growth since its start on Samford's campus.

"I have seen YNA grow from a few people to over 100 people," said Roach. "Not all 100 come to things, but there is now a solid group that consider themselves a part of the organization, and who act as light to both other members and people on campus."

With a steadily growing membership, YNA is excited for the upcoming year as they continue to talk freely about mental health, welcome students with open arms, and grow their membership even more.



International Club

Written by Rachel Brockwell

Through bridging cultural gaps and celebrating the diversity of Samford's campus, the International Club provided a sense of belonging and unity among this year's members.

Though members of the International Club directly benefited from a camaraderie based on distant roots, the club was hardly exclusionary to native students. One of the main goals of the International Club was to bridge the gap between domestic and international students through a variety of events hosted throughout the year.

In the fall, the International Club hosted a potluck dinner. Members of the club were encouraged to prepare and bring different dishes from their native homes. Dishes originated from a variety of places including England, Africa and India. Students attending the potluck enjoyed experiencing and celebrating the cultures represented at the event.

In addition, the International Club hosted various lunches for students to enjoy together. These lunches provided a setting for members of the club to bond with students from different cultures.

"It (is) amazing that in such a small school so many cultures (are) able to come together and share food and experiences," said freshman interior design major Leah Ansardi.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, students from all different walks of life were drawn together this year through the International Club.



Samford Democrats

Written by Jillian Fantin

Additional photos courtesy of Samford Democrats

In the past couple of years, Samford University College Democrats has undergone many administrative and structural changes to make it the thriving campus organization it is this year. A chapter of Alabama College Democrats and the overarching College Democrats Organization, Samford University College Democrats seeks to uphold the values of the Democratic party, organize students for candidates and causes, and increase political competency amongst our membership on current issues.

Following the 2016 Presidential Election, Samford University College Democrats found themselves mobilizing more than ever. The past soon-to-be two years have resulted in a larger campus presence, with 2017-2018 being one of the most active to date. SUCD started off the year with an active table at Samford's Fall 2017 Organizations Fair, continued attendance at all meetings, designed T-shirts, and met with and volunteered in various capacities with the Doug Jones for Senate campaign. SUCD was even able to send representatives from their membership College Democrats of America's 2017 Fall Meeting and the Democratic National Convention 2017 Winter Meeting.

Samford University College Democrats serves as a unique arm of both College Democrats of America and the Democratic party. Unlike other College Democrats chapters, SUCD has a distinct mission of service. From the great Birmingham community to Samford as a whole, members are encouraged to participate in all areas of campus and share Democratic values through actions. SUCD is a diverse group of students, all of whom bring their values to various areas of campus. Brianna Nix is a freshman English major who believes the Democratic party promotes equality.

"I think the human race is more alike," she said, "and yet many of us

are treated differently than others. It's unfair, wrong, and needs to change. As a Democrat, I can help be a part of that change."

SUCD's membership all have distinct missions in their own life that have brought them to align themselves with Democrats.

Member Skye Sisk, who also serves as the President of Community of Samford Gamers, said, "As a gay man, I have been personally subjected to the treatment of far right fundamentalism, and I believe in a world where that oppression is not pushed onto people like me. I believe in change that moves us forward, and that means breaking traditions along the way. In their place, we can form new and more inclusive traditions. That is how we move forward as a society, and that is why I'm a democrat."

Maya Quinn, a sophomore Biology and Environmental Science major and SUCD's 2017-2018 Secretary-Treasurer, remarked, "As an African American, bisexual woman, I cannot ignore how conservative politics has neglected to assist marginalized groups in our nation. Until a different political group successfully stands for the issues that I do, I will continue to align myself with the Democratic Party."

SUCD will continue its mission of advocating for Democratic values and serving Samford's campus through adherence to those values in the years to come.



Photo by: Office of Student Leadership and Involvement



Samford Republicans

Written by Samford College Republicans
Photos courtesy of Janey Whitney



Samford's College Republicans is an organization that focuses on getting students more involved with Republican politics in the state of Alabama. Political participation is important in our federal government and state government, so getting students to push their agendas at a young age is vital for our community. We hold many events throughout the semester where members, or any Samford student, can come listen to politicians that align themselves with the Republican Party discuss their views and policies. These events show multiple perspectives on what being a Republican means to different politicians. We always strive to give our members opportunities and connections to build their knowledge of politics and grow political participation.

Our organization not only allows students to be more involved with their community, but is also great for building leadership skills and growing experience and character in our members.

"Being the Chairman of Samford's College Republicans has opened doors for me to grow connections

I never thought imaginable. I am thankful for this opportunity to help grow political activism among students in my home state of Alabama and strengthen my conservative Republican viewpoints," said Chairman Janey Whitney.

"Having the honor to serve as Vice Chairman for College Republicans has allowed me to explore and strengthen my political views in new ways. Being surrounded by this group of students has greatly enhanced my awareness of critical events and the role we can have in everyday politics," said Vice-Chairman Jake Massey.

We have seven current executive board members who bring their diverse, yet conservative, viewpoints and strive to make this organization the best it can possibly be. Our current executive board members are Janey Whitney as Chairman, Jake Massey as Vice-Chairman, Ben Williams as Secretary, Taylor Bray as Treasurer, Kasey Strout as Director of Public Relations, Lauren Canada as Director of Development, and Erica Boleyn as Director of Events.



Language Clubs

Written by Mary Clark Herrod

Foreign language courses are a requirement for many students at Samford. However, language appreciation can occur outside of the classroom as well. For those students passionate about or interested in learning about a language or culture beyond what is offered in class, or for those students who do not have time to take more languages but want to continue appreciating a language or culture, Samford hosts language clubs.

Students may get involved in clubs such as Spanish, French, or German club. Or, if a student does not have time to commit to a club, the clubs often offer events open to anyone.

These clubs encourage students to learn about other cultures and engage with the world around them by provid-

ing events centered around different aspects of a culture associated with a certain language. The clubs offer events throughout the year that students may attend simply to appreciate the cultures associated with a language and sometimes receive extra credit for their language courses.

The events include meals with culture-themed food, discussions about important cultural events and event playing lawn games from a particular culture on the quad.

Language clubs enhance a student's learning experience, aid students in appreciating culture, and also serve as another means for making friends who share your interests and passions. Many students are involved in these language clubs and will have lasting memories and lessons from their experiences.



Photo courtesy of: Office of Student Leadership and Involvement



Photo courtesy of: Laura Allen





Photo courtesy of: Laura Allen



Photo courtesy of: Laura Allen



Photo courtesy of: Laura Allen



Photo courtesy of: Laura Allen

Model UN

Written by Jamie Davenport

The Samford Model United Nations team is a competitive group of students that travel to two conferences per year to represent countries and simulate the problem solving within the United Nations. This year, the team has enjoyed ample success in both the domestic and international conferences – creating great memories and garnering more prestige for the university while meeting people from around the world.

By attending conferences, students gain a more comprehensive knowledge of the United Nations and their country, and they make global connections that often turn into long-lasting friendships after they connect on social media. In the fall, the Model United Nations team travelled to Washington, D.C. to represent Romania in a variety of committees at National Model UN – the largest domestic conference. Here, students discussed everything from plastic pollution to refugees, while visiting all the monuments and museums that time permitted.

Carly Davis, a junior on the team, won an award with her partner Noah Leatham in the United Nations Committee on Trade and Development. Their topics mainly concerned the negative effects of globalization and how to mitigate those while still expanding trade.

"MUN (Model United Nations) has been one of my favorite experiences at Samford," said Davis. "It's a unique way to interact with students from all around the world and has been a wonderful learning opportunity."

In the spring, the team travelled to Rome to compete at the International Careers Festival. Although the team members represented different countries, they still felt solidarity in being some of the only Ameri-

cans at the conference. Overcoming language and cultural barriers was a challenge, but the team met them head-on.

Samford's Model United Nations team brought home three awards from the International Careers Festival, which is rare, particularly for small teams. Jake Easter, a junior representing South Africa received the Best Position Paper award. Further, Cameron Teaney, a senior, earned Honorable Mention as Pakistan in the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. Finally, Jamie Davenport, a sophomore, brought home Best Delegate as Russia in the United Nations Environmental Programme.

Participation in Model UN provides students with an invaluable first-person glance at how the largest international organization in history functions to create resolutions and agreements among even the most contentious nations.

"For the past few years, Model United Nations provided me with an excellent opportunity to learn about International Relations from a practical standpoint and not just from within the classroom," said team President Kathryn King. "It allowed me to debate and work through some of today's most pressing global issues with other students from around the world, and it encouraged me to learn more about different countries and cultures that I otherwise might not have explored. Some of my favorite memories from my time at Samford have been with this team!"



Student Media

Written by Emily Thomas

Samford has a variety of student-led media. These include: The Crimson, The Local, Entre Nous, and the Samford radio station, WVSU-FM 91.1. The Samford Crimson is the school newspaper. They write about everything campus related, from events and news to sports and activities. Hannah Hutson took over as Editor-in-Chief in the spring after former EIC Asia Simone Burns headed to Washington, D.C. for an internship with NPR. Professor Ana R. Good serves as adviser for The Crimson. Any student is able to come and get some writing experience by working for The Crimson. They normally meet on Tuesday evenings to work on their stories for the week. Not only do they print physical copies of the paper and distribute it at stands around campus, they also have a website: thesamfordcrimson.com The Crimson is a great way to stay informed about what is happening on campus.

Another form of media on Samford's campus is the school magazine, The Local. It is completely run by the students and it is based here at Samford. Their mission statement is "we engage the greater Birmingham community and inspire readers to build a relationship with the city. Through storytelling, we illuminate the rich culture of the makers and innovators that bring life to the Magic City. Our stories bind together the people who live, work and thrive in Birmingham." The Editor-in-Chief for the magazine is Olivia Halverson, and there are many more students who work hard to put the magazine together. They also have a website: www.thelocalbham.com. They write about everything Birmingham related, so if you want to know what the hot spots in the city are, it is the perfect place to look.

"Students who work on The Local do much more than just write stories and design magazine pages. They have to make decisions about

advertising to ensure that the magazine stays in a solid financial position. They have to work together to solve problems and make group decisions. They have to make compromises and settle disagreements. In the process, they grow not just as writers, photographers, and designers. They also grow as professionals and as leaders- being able to watch that growth is probably my favorite aspect of the class," said faculty adviser Clay Carey.

Samford also has a yearbook called Entre Nous. It is an annual yearbook that captures all of the events, students, and popular places on campus over the course of the year. It takes multiple people to put the yearbook together, including: an Editor-in-Chief, section editors, an art director, an assistant editor, a photo editor and all of the writers who contributed their stories. These positions are available for anyone who wants to participate, you do not have to be majoring in anything related to writing or art. All of these are also paid positions. The EIC of Entre Nous is Abigail R. Zajac. Ana R. Good is also an adviser for the yearbook.

Straying from the theme of written media, Samford has a student-operated radio station called WVSU-FM 91.1. This station plays Smooth Jazz. It is operated by the Department of Marketing and Communication. You can listen to the official radio station or you can stream it on your laptop or phone. Their mission is "to promote Samford University, to serve the greater Birmingham community with unique programming and useful information, and to provide a professional environment in which students can improve communication skills. We are proud to serve and unite a diverse audience throughout the Birmingham area".





Samford University

Office of the President

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May 10, 2018

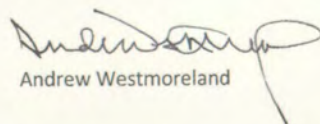
Dear Graduates:

I'm writing this note on the last day of classes for the academic year. It is early morning. The campus, outside my office window, is quiet. As I circled the campus an hour ago, empty parking spaces were everywhere, so I know that many students have already completed their exams and moved out of their residence hall rooms. Commencement ceremonies loom immediately on the horizon. I'm feeling both a sense of tension and a spirit of tranquility as I write these words.

Within the pages of this book lie a few memories of your life at Samford. If you do as I have done over the years with my college yearbooks, you will keep this book with you, moving it in boxes from place to place, along with other treasured possessions. When you are old, your children and grandchildren may pick it up and laugh, asking you questions about your college years. Perhaps you will laugh with them. Then perhaps you will say, "I never knew at the time how so much of my life would be connected to a place called Samford."

You are prepared, able, and competent to face whatever the world brings to you. May you continue to live compassionate, thoughtful lives of service, wherever you go and whatever you do. We have every reason to be proud of you, and grateful for you.

Sincerely,



Andrew Westmoreland



Commencement

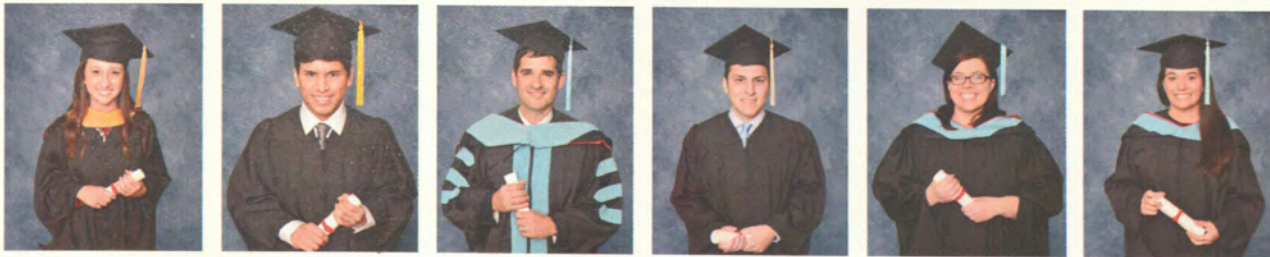
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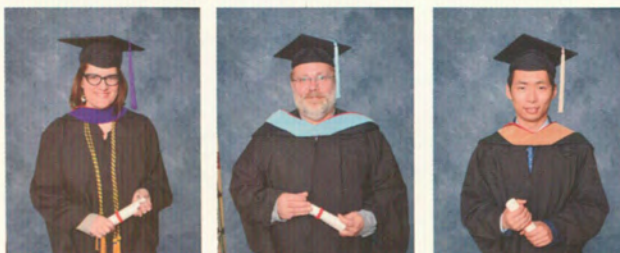
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Hunter Roberts
April Robinson
April Robinson



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David Roby
Christian Rodriguez
Anna Rogers
Charlotte Rogers
Rebecca Roman



Kelsey Romans
Heather Rose
Kelsey Rowe
Kelsey Ryan
Rachel Sadler
David Sahawneh



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Nicholas Sanders
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Sara Saunders



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 Marlee Sellers
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 Brandon Smith
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Hailey Smith
 Jessimene Smith
 Jordan Smith
 Keely Smith
 Luke Smith
 Melanie Smith



Nachasity Smith
 Patrick Smith
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 Reagan Smith
 Regina Smith
 Susanna Smith



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 William Smith
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Mary Katherine Stanley
Kylie Stansell



Kathy Stepanski
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Savannah Stewart
Jessie Stone
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Tina Straight
Rachel Stuart
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Allison Williams
Ashley Williams
Austin Williams



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Rachel Williams
Rebecca Williams
Sarah Williams
Shea Williams
Debra Willis



Erin Willis
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